

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

FIFTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE SECOND
GENERAL ELECTION UNDER THE SOVEREIGN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN CONSTITUTION
OF INDIA

BUDGET SESSION VOLUME I No.26

The 8th April, 1959



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ASSAM
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DEBATES

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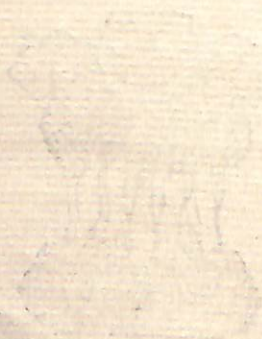
THE REPORT OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AT THE
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BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

1930

The 1930 Session



DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1959

(Budget Session)

Vol. I, No.26

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**Proceedings of the Fifth Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly
assembled after the Second General Election under the
Sovereign Democratic Republican
Constitution of India**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A.M. on
Wednesday, the 8th April, 1959.

PRESENT

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B.A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair eight
Ministers, four Deputy Ministers and seventy-nine Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Local rate and amusements tax realised in town area of Nowgong

Shri LILA KANTA BORA for **Md. NURUL ISLAM** asked :

- *164. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—
- (a) What is the amount realised as Local Rate from Patta Lands in the town area of Nowgong, and also amusement tax during the year, say, 1957-58 ?
 - (b) Whether it is a fact that nothing has been given to the Nowgong Municipal Board out of these taxes by way of compensatory grant ?
 - (c) Whether Government will recognise the claim of the Municipality that it is entitled to get some portion of the local rate and amusement tax in view of the fact that it gives various amenities to the town people ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

164. (a)—Local rate—Rs.2,696, amusement tax including show tax—Rs.1,23,917.
- (b)—Yes.
- (c)—Government intend to give a share of the local rate to the

Municipalities and Town Committees equivalent to the amount collected in their respective jurisdictions under the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959 proposed to be introduced during the current Session of the Assembly. Government do not consider however that the Municipalities and Town Committees have any claim to the amusement tax and are of the opinion that in the larger interest of the State this tax should be credited to the State revenues out of which grants-in-aid are given to Municipalities and Town Committees according to necessity.

(For Starred Questions Nos.165-166 see proceedings of the 7th April, 1959.)

**Surprise visit to Messrs. Hardeodas Jagannath firm at Shillong
by Sales Tax Officials**

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

- *167. Will the Finance Minister be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether the Offices of Messrs. Hardeodas Jagannath and other allied firms in Shillong were searched recently by Sales Tax Officials in connection with suspected evasion of taxes ?

- (b) Whether any books and papers were seized from those premises and if so, where have those been kept?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that a preliminary scrutiny of the books and papers has revealed evasion of taxes amounting to many lakhs of rupees?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that on examination of the firm accounts, it was found that black-market transaction in fertilisers and other controlled commodities had been carried on, on a considerable scale?
- (e) Whether the Income-Tax authorities have been associated with the investigations?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that Shri J. N. Bawri of Messrs. Hardeodas Jagannath and other allied firms involved in the present investigation, is a member of Khasi Hills District Congress Committee?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied:

167. (a)—No search was made. The Sales Tax Officials made a surprise visit to the shop premises of Messrs. Hardeodas Jagannath, Shillong and seized some account books on suspicion.

(b)—Yes. The account books have been kept in safe custody.

(c)—Examination of accounts is not yet over and hence it cannot be said at this stage whether or to what extent there has been evasion of tax.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—The Income-tax authorities have partly examined the accounts of the dealer under section 37 of the Indian Income-Tax Act along with our Sales Tax Officer.

(f)—Shri J. N. Bawri is a member of the Khasi Hills District Congress Committee.

Complaint against P. E. O., Panitola

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*168. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Development Projects be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Deputy Commissioner or Sub-divisional Officer, Dibrugarh inspected Panitola Community Development Block in accordance with letter No. CPMS.113/58/35, dated 3rd July 1958, issued by Deputy Development Commissioner, Assam?
- (b) If so, whether any inspection note was prepared?
- (c) Whether the Government or local Deputy Commissioner lately received any complaint from any of the members of this Assembly to the effect that the Project Officer, Panitola did not supply information to certain queries regarding the activities of the Project?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Community Development) replied:

168. (a)—Deputy Commissioner and Additional Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur have frequently visited the Panitola Block and given necessary guidance to the local officers.

(b)—No inspection report about Panitola Block has been prepared.

(c)—Government and Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur have recently received complaint from the Questioner about non-receipt of certain information from Project Executive Officer, Panitola. The information has been collected and is being supplied.

Regarding a murder of one Srinath Seal at Barpeta Road, Kamrup

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati) asked:

*169. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he has received a copy of the resolution of public meeting held on the 7th March 1959, in the Barpeta Road Bazar under the presidency of Shri Srihari Burman pertaining to the public agitation over the alleged murder of one Srinath Seal on the 13th February 1959 and alleged lethargy of the local police in investigating into the case?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to make a proper investigation into the case through a higher Police Officer?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

169. (a)—A copy of the resolution in question was received.

(b)—The Superintendent of Police, Kamrup supervised the investigation. The case is still under enquiry.

Improvement of two bridges and two miles of roads in Khangia Mouza under the Jorhat National Extension Service Block for the convenience of procuring Sugarcane

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMAH (Dergaon) asked:

*170. Will the Minister-in-charge of Community Projects be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Minister-in-charge had received a letter from the questioner regarding improvement of two bridges and two miles of roads at Khangia Mouza in Jorhat Subdivision under

Jorhat National Extension Service Block for procuring sugarcane ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that orders of Government in this regard were not carried out, and the work has been kept pending for more than eight months ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware of the difficulties of the cultivators of Khangia Mouzas who failed to supply their sugarcane products due to non-co-operation of the Project Officer ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to take necessary steps immediately to remove these difficulties ?

Shri A. THANGLURA (Chief Parliamentary Secretary) replied :

170. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Information is being collected.

(c)—Government have no information except the letter under reference in (a) of the question.

(d)—The matter is being enquired into.

Petitions for complaint against the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Nalbari Municipality

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-west) asked :

*171. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that some serious public petitions have lately been submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, Commissioner of Plains Division and the Minister concerned against the Municipal authority, particularly the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Nalbari Municipality for misuse of power, nepotism, corruption, etc. ?

(b) If so, how many of such petitions have been received by the Government and on what different dates each of these was received ? (Please mention the dates).

(c) Whether action has been taken in time ?

(d) If the reply to (c) above is in the affirmative, what action has been taken and when ?

(e) If the reply to (c) above is in the negative, why ?

(f) Whether it is a fact that the present Chairman of the Nalbari Municipality is not the elected representative of the people but was nominated by the Government ?

*171A. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Chairman, Nalbari Municipality has lately allowed installation of an Atta Mill near the crossing of Barua Road and Nalbari College road which is congested and thickly populated ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that the said Atta Mill has been installed by encroaching some portion of the College road ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that all the citizens of the locality headed by Shri Juyendra Malla Barua and others opposed installation of the said Mill on the ground that it would be injurious to the health, safety and peace and would cause nuisance to the local people ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that they submitted representation to the Minister concerned, Chief Minister, Commissioner of Division, the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup and the Chairman, Nalbari Municipality ?
- (e) If so, what actions have been taken by the respective authorities ?
- (f) If not, why not ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied:

171. (a)—Some public petitions have been received against Chairman, Nalbari Municipal Board in the matter of non-clearance of some drains including closure of some of them, location of Ananda Talkies in the premises of the Public Hall, Nalbari and eviction of encroachers, installation of Atta mill.

(b)—One of the petitions dated 2nd September 1958 was received by Government on 4th September 1958 and another complaint dated 12th December 1958 was received on 18th December 1958.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—On the first petition, Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, was asked on 18th September 1958 for early enquiry and report. The Deputy Commissioner has since held the enquiry and asked the Municipal Board on 30th December 1958 to rectify the defects and has also started cases for removal of encroachment. With regard to the location of the

Cinema Hall the matter is still under consideration of Government. On the second complaint Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup was asked to enquire and report on 3rd January 1959 and reminded on 3rd March 1959.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—Although a nominated member of the Municipal Board he has been elected as Chairman of the Board by its members.

171A. (a)—Yes. But the site is not in a congested area compared to the sites for other such Mills at Nalbari.

(b)—It is not a fact that the Mill has encroached upon a portion of the College Road.

(c)—Petitions opposing the installation of the said Mill on the grounds as mentioned in the question have been received from Shri J. M. Barua and others.

(d)—Representations submitted by them have been received by the Commissioner of Plains Division and the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup. It is not known if they submitted any representation to the Chairman, Nalbari Municipal Board. Government did not receive any representation from them. Government however, received a telegram from the Hon'ble Member and Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury.

(e)—Government has asked the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup for early enquiry and report. The Deputy Commissioner has since taken up the matter with the Chairman, Nalbari Municipal Board. Commissioner of Plains Division is also going to hold an on the spot enquiry in the matter soon. Their final reports are awaited by Government.

(f)—Does not arise.

Bihampur-Belsor-Barnibari Road

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*172. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No.230 asked by the Questioner in the Assembly on the 1st May 1958 on the subject Bihampur-Belsor-Barnibari Road and state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the road from Bihampur to Billeswar Devalaya portion is still to be completed and the other portions constructed are not properly maintained?

(b) Whether Government has decided to abandon the portion of the road from Belsor to Phikan Dirowa and Barnibari?

- (c) If reply to (b) above is in the affirmative, what are the reasons thereof ?
- (d) If the reply to (b) above is in the negative, why arrangement for its maintenance is not made and when it is going to be made ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that many telegrams and written representations had been submitted to the Department requiring repair of the portion of the road damaged in the last flood ?
- (f) If so, why sanction for repairing the damage is not made as yet ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied :

172. (a)—Amount sanctioned for this work was for improving 1st mile of the road with 16 ft. crest width. But as per general directive issued as much length as possible within the sanctioned amount by down-grading the specification to 12 ft. formation width was taken up and works started in about 5 miles. Works in the 1st mile have been completed. The other portion, i.e., 4th to 5th mile has not been completed, hence, not maintained.

(b) & (c)—The question of providing additional funds for the incomplete portion is under examination. The road will be taken up as soon as funds are available. The question of abandoning the road does not arise.

(d)—The portion of the road has not been completed, the question of maintenance does not arise.

(e) & (f)—Yes, some representations were received, but the damage could not be repaired as the question of completing the road is under examination as stated at (b) & (c) above.

Separation of Judiciary from the Executive

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*173. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government are considering the proposal of separation of Judiciary from the Executive ?

(b) When a decision in this respect may be expected ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied :

173.(a)—The Civil Judiciary has also been separated and the proposal for separation of the Criminal Judiciary from the Executive is under consideration of the Government.

(b)—A Committee is being soon appointed to advise the Government about the steps to be taken for separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

Case against one Deputy Superintendent of Police, Shillong

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*174. Will the Minister-in-charge of Home be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a case under Sections 342/323/298/166, I. P. C., has been instituted, and obtained Departmental approval against one Deputy Superintendent of Police, Shillong ?

(b) If so, whether he is suspended under Fundamental Rule 54 (Correction Slip 124, paragraph 2) ?

(c) If not, why not ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied :

174. (a)—Yes. In the preliminary enquiry the Magistrate found a *prima facie* case under Sections 323/295 I. P. C. On an application by the complainant, Government's sanction for the prosecution was conveyed under Section 197, Cr. P. C., on 19th November 1958.

(b)---No.

(c)—The Officer was not placed under suspension for the reason that although he was a Deputy Superintendent of Police, he was actually at that time working as Special Officer, Assam Fire Service and his continuance in that capacity was not likely to embarrass him in the discharge of his duties nor could he interfere in any way with the proceedings of the case.

Regarding Seniority, Promotions, etc., of Secretariat Assistants

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

*175. Will the Chief Minister, be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Secretariat Appointment Department have recently fixed the seniority of about 108 Upper and Lower Division Assistants of the Secretariat ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Secretariat Administration Department is meant for dealing with all cases including fixation of seniority of the non-Gazetted Secretariat staff and Appointment Department is meant for dealing with all cases of Gazetted Secretariat staff ?
- (c) If so, why this matter of non-Gazetted staff was dealt by the Appointment Department ?
- (d) Which Department dealt with such matters previously ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that one Upper Division Assistant of Appointment Department dealt with the file regarding the fixation of seniority of these Assistants ?
- (f) Who is that Assistant ?
- (g) How many position he gained in seniority in the present fixation ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that such action is a violation of Rule 55 of the Secretariat Manual to deal with matters by an Assistant when he himself is intimately interested in the matters ?
- (i) Whether there was no responsible uninterested officer to deal with the matters ?
- (j) If so, why they were not entrusted to deal with it ?

- (k) Whether Government propose to take action on the person concerned for this violation of rule ?
 - (l) Whether Government is aware that there were many allegations both verbal and written from Secretariat Assistants and other quarters against this Assistant ?
 - (m) If so, what are the allegations and what actions were taken ?
 - (n) How many years the said Assistant has been serving in the Appointment Department ?
 - (o) Whether it is a fact that Government have passed an order to transfer the Secretariat Assistants from the Department where one has served for more than 5 years ?
 - (p) If so, why the said Assistant has been retained in the Appointment Department so long ?
 - (q) Whether Government propose to implement this decision immediately ?
- *176. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—
- (a) Why Government have recently after a lapsed of 12 years fixed the seniority of about 108 Assistants of Secretariat who were confirmed since 1947 ?
 - (b) If so, why this matter was kept pending so long ?
 - (c) Who is responsible for this ?
 - (d) Whether it is a fact that the confirmation of these Assistants were duly approved by the then Chief Minister and Chief Secretary and on the basis of seniority fixed then they were allowed promotion to the posts of Upper Division Assistants, Assistant Superintendents, and Superintendent uptill now ?
 - (e) Whether it is a fact that Government have laid some principle, in fixing the seniority and it was stated that no representation questioning the principle will be accepted ?

- (f) If so, why Government refuse to accept any representation under the rules ?
- (g) What were the communal quotas of different communities in Secretariat service during 1946-1947—1948-1949 and 1950 ?
- (h) Whether these quotas were observed in confirmation of Secretariat Assistants ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied :

175. (a)—Yes, Government in the Appointment Department have recently fixed the seniority of many Assistants in the Upper Division lower division Cadres of the Assam Secretariat.

(b)—While the Secretariat Administration Department is responsible for dealing with Appointment, Leave, Transfer, etc., of Secretariat non-Gazetted staff, the Appointment Department is responsible for dealing with the Assam Secretariat Service Rules, the Assam Secretariat Superintendent's Service Rules and the Assam Secretariat Subordinate Service Rules including framing, amendments and interpretation of Rules. The Appointment Department is also responsible for advising other Departments regarding Rules and practices regulating fixation of seniority, promotion and other service conditions.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Originally the Establishment Branch of the Home Department and subsequently General Administration Department dealt with such matters. But after the Assam Rules of Executive Business came into force from October 1951, such matters are being dealt with in the Appointment Department.

(e)—The Seniormost Upper Division Assistant in the Appointment (B) Department was entrusted with this work and he was assisted by the next Seniormost Upper Division Assistant.

(f)—They are Sarvasri Pijush Kanti Hore and Renderson Hynniewta.

(g)—Shri P. K. Hore gained 42 places and Shri Renderson Hynniewta gained 60 places in the Lower Division cadre.

(h)—No, this is a matter involving a general policy and not any particular individual. The assistants merely collected all the relevant papers and the matter was examined and decisions taken at a much higher level.

(i)—There were responsible disinterested officer-in-charge of both Appointment and Secretariat Administration Department who dealt with the matter at their respective levels at all stages.

(j) & (k)—Do not arise.

(l)—Government are not aware of any allegations verbal or written against the said assistant excepting a few anonymous and pseudonymous letters containing baseless imputations.

(m)—Does not arise.

(n)—For nearly 8 years.

(o)—In a Meeting of the Secretaries' Committee held in October, 1958 it has been decided that assistants should be rotated between several departments and even within the same department as far as possible so that no assistant should remain in the same branch or department for more than 5 years.

(p)—The decision of the Secretaries' Committee has not yet been implemented and is under examination as various practical difficulties have to be faced.

(q)—As already stated, the matter is under examination.

176. (a)—Seniority of a large number of assistants had to be refixed because there have been a lot of anomalies, irregularities and deviation from the declared principles and policies of Government particularly during the years 1947 to 1950 in confirming assistants which has governed their seniority.

(b)—A large number of representations continued to pour immediately after confirmation of each batch and in the meantime the amalgamation of 3 small Establishments, namely, the Governor's Secretariat, the Legal Remembrancer's Office and the Chief Minister's Secretariat with the main Secretariat raised certain other problems and it was necessary to scrutinise each representation, ascertain facts after collection of old and relevant papers which naturally resulted in some delay.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Chief Secretary being the appointing authority, the approval of the Chief Minister for confirmation of Lower Division and Upper Division Assistants does not arise. In some cases of confirmation in the past, the approval of Chief Minister however was taken and promotions have been provisionally allowed on the basis of the then prevailing seniority list, recommendations of the Gradation Committee and other relevant factors. It was made clear that the seniority list was only provisional.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Representations against error in applying the relevant principles are being entertained.

(g)—A statement is laid on the table,

Statement referred to in reply to Starred Question No.176(g) asked by Shri Hareswar Goswami, M. L. A., at the Budget Session, 1959

Percentage of communal representation in service till commencement of the Constitution of India

Community				Percentage
	(1)			(2)
1. Assam Valley Hindus ...	...	...	...	22.61
2. Surma Valley Hindus ...	...	...	...	9.33
3. Assam Valley Muslims ..	...	...	...	14.29
4. Surma Valley Muslims ...	...	...	...	23.3
5. Plains Tribals ..	...	...	...	11.96
6. Hills Tribals ...	...	...	...	7.66
7. Assam Valley Scheduled Caste ...	...	...	...	2.64
8. Surma Valley Scheduled Caste ...	...	...	...	4.43
9. (a) Ahoms ..	...	...	...	3.25
(b) Indian Christians ...	...	...	...	.42
(c) Others (Anglo-Indian, European, etc.) ...	...	...	...	.06
(d) Sikhs ...	...	...	...	.02
(e) Jains ...	...	...	...	.02
(f) Bundhistt ...	...	...	...	.01

100.00

(h)—Yes, as far as practicable.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon): Will the Government be pleased to maintain the status quo of the persons who have been selected last year by the Selection Grade Board on merit?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): As I have already pointed out that this time on the basis of principle laid down by Government since 1951 all these cases have been examined and there can be no exception to that principle.

Amalgamation of the Department of Public Health and Medical

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked:

*177. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Department of Public Health and Medical have been completely amalgamated?

(b) Whether the Minister will be pleased to lay on the table of the House list showing how the different District Medical Officers under the Public Health Department been refixed in the new set up showing their date of confirmation and the posts in which they have been allotted now?

(c) How many of the old District Medical Officers under the Public Health Department have been made Civil Surgeons and who are they?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied:

177. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A copy of the list is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No.S.95.).

(c)—Two viz., (1) Dr. A. C. Borbora, (2) Dr. Lala S. B. Das.

Acquisition of lands in certain villages under Police Station, Nalbari to dig a drain for controlling flood

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*178. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that in the Acquisition file No.45/58-59 the Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup has passed an order under Flood Control Ordinance No.11 of 1955 to acquire some lands in village Sandheli, Niz Pakowa, Bangaon and Barnadi under Police Station, Nalbari, to dig a drain for the purpose of controlling flood ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that there is neither flood nor any necessity to dig a drain there ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the areas in question are not low lands and that storage of water will be hampered during the time of Sali plantation in the event of the above drain being dug ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that the local people have submitted written objection against the order of Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup stating that the drain will cause them loss, and is not necessary at all ?
- (e) If so, what action has been taken by Government in this matter ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister in-charge of P.W.D. (E. & D.)] replied:

178. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—A low-lying area measuring about 7 sq. miles in Pakowa and Bahjani Mauzas near Pagladiya river used to get waterlogged during rainy season rendering it unfit for any cultivation. To reclaim this area, a drainage scheme was initiated long before the question of providing embankments along Pagladia river in this reach came for consideration

and] execution later on. After provision of marginal embankments which prevented flood water entering into this low area, it has now been felt that there is not much necessity of providing the drainage channel in the upper reaches of the area and further execution of the drainage scheme has been dropped.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—As stated in reply to questions (b) & (c) above, further execution of the drainage scheme has been dropped.

**Payment of land revenue to the proprietor by the
Cultivators in Tea Garden grants belonging to
Phukanbari Tea Estate**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked:

*179. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a number of cultivators had been cultivating in Tea Garden grants belonging to Phukanbari Tea Estate in Kheremia and Gharbandi Mauzas in Dibrugarh Subdivision since last 20 years by paying land revenue to the proprietor?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that about 1,500 bighas of lands was requisitioned there by the Government for the cultivators in 1952 or so?
- (c) Whether it is fact that the proprietors have been engaging persons to oppress these cultivators in different ways since a proposal for requisitioned came?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that an appeal with the Government by 14 persons headed by a President, Mandal Congress Committee making certain allegations and calling for a public meeting on 12th January 1959 near Balijan in Kheremia Mauza?

(e) What were the allegations in the leaflet?

(f) What is the area of land available for cultivators from these grants belonging to Phukanbari Tea Estate?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

179. (a) to (f)—Information have been called for.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue): Informations have been called for. But I like to say that the question refers to a private estate and Government have no power to enter into the premises of this Estate without the consent of the Proprietor. The Government may simply request the Proprietor to furnish the information.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa): May I know from the hon. Minister whether Government was asking the management of the gardens for requisition of the land?

Shri HARESWAR DAS: There is no question of requisitioning the land. The people are alleged to be occupying the garden lands for 20 years paying land revenue to the proprietor.

Registration of the Assam Co-operative Union

Shri COPENSH NAMSUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

180. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative, etc., be pleased to state—

- (a) When the Assam Co-operative Union was registered?
- (b) What is the total amount granted to this Union a grant-in aid after its registration?
- (c) For what purpose the grant was given?
- (d) Whether Government made any subsequent enquiry regarding the proper utilisation of the grant?
- (e) If so, what are the findings of the enquiry?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that this Union though receiving a good amount as grant-in-aid did not keep a proper account and utilised the same otherwise?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

180. (a)—On the 12th September, 1955.

(b)—Total Rs.44,484 till date.

(c)—For arranging Co-operative convention, celebration of Co-operative Week, attending Education Conference, meeting expenditure incurred in connection with T.A. etc.; of Vice President of All India Co-operative Union, implementing education scheme, (Pay of staff and stipend to trainees), Co-operative Conference.

(d)—Yes, this has been ensured by regular audit and inspection.

(e)—No serious irregularity detected.

(f) —No.

Appointment of the member of the Regional Transport Authority

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*181. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) On what principles the member of the Regional Transport Authority are appointed ?

(b) Whether the same principle is followed in all cases ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON **A. SANGMA** (Minister, Transport) replied :

181. (a)—Non-official members of the Regional Transport Authority are selected on principles laid down in Section 44(2) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 which prescribes that no person who has any financial interest whether as proprietor, employee or otherwise in any Transport Undertaking shall be appointed as or continue as a non-official member of a Transport Authority.

(b)—Yes.

Introduction of bus line between Barpeta Road and Bongaigaon

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog), asked :

*182. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether bus line will be introduced between Barpeta Road to Bongaigaon ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) Whether this has been included in the Second Five Year Plane ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

182. (a)—As the road is not an all-weather route difficulties are there issuing periodic road permits.

(b)—As and when the road will be fit for vehicular traffic all the year round.

(c)—Yes, Government have however recently decided not to take up any further routes for nationalisation during the remaining plan period on account of withdrawal of fund provided by the Planning Commission for the Assam Road Transport Nationalisation Schemes.

Quarters of the Sub-Inspector of Schools at Dergaon

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMAH (Dergaon) asked :

*183. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a)—What amount has been sanctioned for construction of the Quarters of the Sub-Inspector of Schools at Dergaon ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that due to non-receipt of the sanctioning order by the local authority the construction work of the said building has been delayed for the last one year ?

(c) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps to issue the sanctioning order so as to

help construction of the said quarter which is of urgent necessity ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

183. (a)—Rs. 11,000.

(b)—No. The delay was due to non-availability of suitable land.

(c)—Work is in progress.

Fencing of the boundaries of Police Training College, 1st and 2nd Battalion and Border Security Force area

Shri NARENDRANATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :

*184. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the boundaries of Police Training College, 1st and 2nd Battalion and Border Security Force area have been fenced ?

(b) Whether Government have lately received several complaints from the public in this regard ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that roads in the aforesaid areas are in a very miserable condition and the authorities concerned have not taken proper action to improve the same ?

(d) Whether Government will be pleased to take early steps for improvement of the roads and fencing of the areas ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied :

184 (a)—Not yet.

(b)—No.

(c)—The roads are not upto Public Works Department standard and are maintained departmentally with limited funds.

(d)—The proposals are under consideration.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked:

*185. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is any family quarters for the Police of 1st and 2nd Battalion and what is the number of such quarters ?
- (b) If the answer is in the affirmative, whether these quarters are of semi-permanent nature or temporary ?
- (c) If the reply is in the negative, whether Government are aware of the difficulties of the family holders who are also low paid employees ?
- (d) Will Government take early step for giving such facilities to these employees ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied:

185 (a)—Yes, the number is as follows:—

1st A. P. Battalion.—94 family quarters.

2nd A. P. Battalion.—53 family quarters.

(b) Details of such quarters are as under:—

1st A. P. Battalion.—3 permanent Public Works Department quarters.

6 Semi-permanent Deptmental quarters.

85 Temporary Departmental quarters.

Total ... 94 quarters

2nd A. P. Battalion.—1 Semi-permanent Departmental quarter.

52 Temporary Departmental quarters.

Total ... 53 quarters.

(c) and (d)—Steps are being taken to see that more family quarters especially for low-paid employees are constructed in the near future as far as funds permit under the Police Housing Scheme.

Production of 3,4000 maunds of paddy per bigha by Chinese Farmers

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

*186. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture, etc., be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he has any information that the Chinese Farmers have produced 1,20,000 catties of paddy per maund, i. e., 3,400 maunds per bigha ?

(b) If so, what measures have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to introduce the same to meet the food crisis of the State ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

186. (a)—The information is based on reports received from private individuals who have visited China. No authentic information has yet been received.

(b) Detailed information is awaited from the Government of India.

Cases of dacoities occurred in the area of West of Titabar Town up to Kokalonga river

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

*187. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many cases of dacoities occurred in the area West of Titabar Town down up to Kokalonga river including Basa village during 1958 and upto the end of February, 1959 ?

- (b) The number of casualties and losses both in life and value of property incurred in these dacoities ?
- (c) How many persons have been arrested in these dacoities ?
- (d) How many cases are concluded and how many are pending in the Court ?
- (e) How many persons are acquitted ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the villagers are in panic due to large number of dacoities taking place frequently in the above mentioned area ?
- (g) What steps Government are taking to prevent recurrence of such dacoities in this area ?
- (h) Whether Government will arrange police patrolling in this area ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied :

187 (a) Only one case of Dacoity was reported from the Area in question during 1958. No case of Dacoity was reported during 1959 (upto 28.2.1959).

(b) There was no loss of life during the commission of the above Dacoity case, but property worth Rs.1,847 was involed which has not yet been recovered.

(c) & (d) Three persons were arrested in connection with the above Dacoity case, which ended in Final Report for want of evidence.

(e) All the three persons were discharged.

(f) No panic on the part of the local villagers was noticed. The general living is normal.

(g) & (h) Police Patrols were arranged and owing to effective Patrols by Police and Village Defence Parties crime in the area is controlled and no Dacoity cases occurred during the year.

Duration of Strike of the workers of Kanjikhowa Tea Estate (Dibrugarh)

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*188. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) The number of days the workers of Kanjikhowa Tea Estate (Dibrugarh) who went on strike in the year 1958 ?

(b) What was the reason of the strike for such a long duration ?

(c) Whether a deputation wanted upon and presented a memorandum to the Deputy Labour Minister at Dibrugarh ?

(d) If so, what action has been taken by Government on that representation which was signed by two members of this Assembly along with others ?

(e) On what terms and conditions the strike was called off ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

188. (a)—13 days from 19th January 1958 to 1st December, 1958.

(b)—The workers went on strike protesting against the dismantling of the factory at Kanjikhowa by the management who decided to amalgamate the Kanjikhowa division with the Kharajan division.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The deputationists were advised to abide by the terms of an agreement which was approved by the Assam Branch, I.N.T.U.C. and to call off the strike. The Secretary of the Union signed the draft agreement on 1st December, 1958 and called off the strike. Government therefor did not have to take any action.

(e)—The strike was called off on the following terms and conditions—

(1) No worker or no member of the staff of Kanjikhowa Tea Estate shall be retrenched owing to the amalgamation of it with Karjan Tea Estate of the same Company.

(2) The present status of the Artisans, members of the staff, sirdars, chowkidars, mistry, jugalies and such other people shall not be disturbed in any way nor shall their pay and prospect be affected by this amalgamation.

(3) There will be School, Hospital, Club, Puja Hall and Canteen in Kanjikhowa in future too just as they are there now.

(4) The workers at Kanjikhowa will have the same pay-day as before and the market will be there as well.

(5) Those elderly people who have been being given light work in the Factory now shall be given light work in future too and their cases shall be sympathetically considered.

Dr. RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY (Lakhipur) : Whether this strike was legal or illegal ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) Strike was legal, because it has not affected the public utility services.

Dr. RAM PRASAD CHAUBEY : Whether any compensation has been paid ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI : The question of paying compensation does not arise, because the parties automatically settled the dispute.

Renovation of the ancient tanks in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

*189. Will the Minister, Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there are more than 200 old and ancient tanks in Sibsagar Sub-division ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that good drinking water is not available from these tanks ?

(c) Whether Government propose to excavate or renovate these tanks so that the people may get facilities of good drinking water ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L.S.-G.) replied:

189. (a)—Yes. There are more or less 200 old and ancient tanks in Sibsagar Subdivision.

(b)—Yes, except a very few tanks, Viz, Sibsagar, Joysagar, Gaurisagar, Tengapukhuri, Mechagarh, Rajmawpukhuri, Borbaruahpukhuri, Neog Gohainpukhuri, Phulpanichigapukhuri, Rahdaipukhuri and few others, no good drinking water is available.

(c)—The matter is under consideration of Government.

Sanction of the State Dispensary at Rangasahi in Majuli out of the grant under Article 275 of the Constitution

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

*190. Will the Minister-in-charge of T.A.D. be pleased to state—

(a) The date on which the State Dispensary at Rangasahi in Majuli has been sanctioned ?

(b) Whether it was sanctioned out of the grants under Article 275 of the Constitution ?

(c) If so, through which agency the site was selected ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the selected site for the said dispensary is not in a Plains Tribal populated area ?

(e) Whether Government have lately received any complaint from local people regarding the site plan of the proposed dispensary ?

(f) If so, what action has been taken so far by the Government ?

(g) If not, why ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T.A.D.) replied:

190. (a)—Yes, it has been decided to construct a dispensary at Rangasahi.

(b)—Yes, it will be financed out of grant-in-aid under Article 275.

(c)—Site was selected as per recommendation of the Subdivisional Development Board, Jorhat.

(d)—The site is located in a Plains Tribal populated area.

(e)—No such representation has been received by Government.

(f) & (g)—Do not arise.

Anti-Malaria squad at Gobardhana in Barpeta Subdivision

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

*191. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether an anti-Malaria squad was sanctioned at Gobardhana in Barpeta Subdivision ?

(b) How much amount was sanctioned ?

(c) Whether it was advertised in the *Assam Tribune* and tenders were called for ?

(d) Whether any tenders were submitted ?

(e) If so, why no work has been started up till now ?

(f) When the work will be started ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied :

191. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Rs.54,000 for construction of buildings.

(c)—No.

(d)—No.

(e)—The proposal has been dropped.

(f)—Does not arise.

Scarcity of Moida flour and 'Sojii. in the State

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Narbari-West): asked:

*192. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Why the scarcity of moida flour was prevalent in the State both before and after the last Durga Puja ?

(b) Whether cases of moida black marketing were detected during the said period ?

(c) If so, how many of such black marketing cases were detected ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied:

192. (a)—This State is mostly dependent on Calcutta Flour Mills for flour as the production of flour from the only Roller Flour Mill of Assam is too inadequate. The supply position of wheaten products from Calcutta was not very satisfactory due to non issue of movements permits by West Bengal Government for a total quantity of 1,58,181 mds. against our allotments of 3,24,000 mds. for the months from May, 1958 to December, 1958 resulting in scarcity of moida in the State before and after the last Durga Puja.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Nineteen cases.

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA asked:

*193. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Why "Sojii" is scarce in the market ?

M. MOINUL HAUQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied:

193. (a)—This State is mostly dependent on Calcutta Flour Mills for supply of soji as soji produced in the only Roller Flour Mill of Assam is too inadequate. As Calcutta Flour Mills have reduced the percentage of the production of soji under Government orders in order to produce more Atta there has been some shortage of soji.

Number of employees of the Publicity Department in the State

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*194. Will the Minister-in-charge of Publicity be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the total number of employees of this Publicity Department at Shillong ?
- (b) What are the total number of employees of this Department in Assam outside Shillong ?
- (c) How many radios have been installed by this Department upto now ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that they are of very inferior quality ?
- (e) How many Publicity Vans are there in Assam ?
- (f) What are the duties of the Publicity Department ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Publicity) replied :

194. (a)—Eighty-five employees.

(b)—Ninety-one employees.

(c)—Four hundred and forty radio sets.

(d)—No.

(e)—Fifteen vehicles.

(f)—The publicity and propaganda activities of the State Government are centralised in this Department. It publicises various schemes, activities and achievements of the

development Departments by employing various media like oral publicity, Rural Broadcasting, Audio-Visual Publicity, Printed Publicity, and Press Publicity. It carries Government news and views to the mass people and endeavours to raise their standard of living. One of its function is to maintain close liaison with Press and All India Radio.

Recommendation of Sibsagar Development Board to sanction of self-help enterprises

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

*195. Will the Minister-in-charge of the Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Sibsagar Development Board sent recommendation for sanction of self-help enterprises for 1958?
- (b) If so, when Government have received the recommendations?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that in spite of repeated reminders Government have not sent their approval as yet?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that such delay discourages such public enterprises?

Shri MOHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge Cottage Industries) replied:

195. (a) হয়; ১৯৫৭-৫৮ চনৰ।

(b) ১৯৫৮ চনৰ মেই মাহৰ ২০ তাৰিখে।

(c) সন্মতি দিয়া হ'ল। কিছুমান technical অসুবিধা থকাৰ কাৰণে সোনকালে সন্মতি দিয়াত অসুবিধা হৈছিল।

(d) নিকংসাহ হ'ব পাৰে; কিন্তু এই বিষয়টো পলম হোৱা অনিবাৰ্য্য হৈ পৰিছিল।

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge Cottage Industries) replied:

†195. (a)—Yes, for 1957-58.

(b)—On 20th May 1958.

(c)—The approval has since been given.

Due to certain technical difficulties the approval could not be given earlier.

(d)—May be, but the delay was unavoidable in this particular case.

†English translation of Minister's replies in Assamese.

Quota of C.I. Sheets for Nalbari and Tihu area of Kamrup District

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*196. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Since how long the quota of C. I. Sheets has not been sanctioned to Nalbari and Tihu area of Kamrup District ?
- (b) Whether Government propose to allot new quota before 31st March, 1959 for the said areas ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

196. (a)—Since January, 1959 in respect of Nalbari. No separate allotment is made to Tihu which falls within the jurisdiction of Nalbari area.

(b)—Yes, as soon as the category-wise break-up of the agricultural quota of period IV/58-59 is received from the Government of India.

Bundles of C. I. Sheets allotted to Barpeta Subdivision in 1958

M. GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

*197. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) How many bundles of C. I. Sheets were allotted to Barpeta Subdivision in 1958 ?
- (b) Whether all of them were distributed by the Supply Advisory Board ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied:

197. (a) & (b) 826 bundles of C. I. Sheets were allotted during 1958. Two consignments containing 407 bundles were distributed through the Supply Advisory Board after deducting the requisite percentage for D.C.G. quotas 222 bundles of S.S.I. quota was distributed by the Director of Consumer Goods. 197 bundles were distributed by the Subdivisional Officer and the Extra Assistant Commissioner in charge of Supply themselves when the Supply Advisory Board was not functioning.

Regarding road from North Gauhati Ferryghat to the Petrol Depot

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*198. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B. Wings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that road from North Gauhati Ferryghat to the Petrol Depot (a distance of about 3 furlongs) is too narrow for vehicular traffic ?
- (b) Whether there is any proposal for broadening the same ?
- (c) If so, what is that?
- (d) When will that be materialised ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied :

198. (a)—Yes. This portion of road is too narrow for vehicular traffic.

(b)—Yes. There is a proposal for widening the portion of the road from ferry-ghat to Petrol Depot.

(c)—Estimate for the purpose is under preparation on the basis of a resolution passed by the All-Assam Local Bodies' Conference held at Dibrugarh, 1955.

(d) The proposal will be put up to next meeting of the Assam Road Communication Boards for their consideration.

Exemption of land revenue to the villagers of Nadla, Amani and Punui under Nalbari Police Station

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*199. Will the Minister Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that villagers of villages Nadla, Amani and Punui under Nalbari Police Station have later submitted public petitions to Government through the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup to exempt their land revenue, on the ground that, the entire

salipaddy grown by them in Punui-Pathar have been damaged by bhur, rice-bug and some other insects ?

- (b) If so, whether Government will consider their prayer favourably ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

199. (a)—No such public petition has been received by the Government.

(b)—Remission of revenue will be considered according to the provision of Land Revenue Manual.

Direction to Excise shop licensees to close their shops at 6 p.m. in Winter and 7 p.m. in Summer.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*200. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Excise shop licensees have been directed to close their shops at 6 p. m. during Winter Season, and at 7 p. m. during Summer season ?

- (b) If so, whether this is strictly adhered to by all the licensees ?

- (c) Whether Government is aware that the foreign liquor licensees at Shillong, Dibrugarh and elsewhere have been violating this order ?

- (d) Whether Government propose to enquire into the matter and take necessary steps ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

200. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No. There is no such report.

(d)—Yes, it is being enquired into.

Settlement of liquor shops in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*201. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government lately received complaint that the settlement of liquor shops in Dibrugarh Subdivision numbering about 38 had been made to persons belonging to 6 (six) parties?
- (b) Whether there are *benamdars* and intermediaries who control these 38 different shops?
- (c) Whether in one such allegations it was mentioned that 11 (eleven) or 10 (ten) liquor shops were settled with persons belonging to M/S. Ramnarayan Singh and M/S. Idrish Khan and Manik Dutta respectively?
- (d) Whether confidential enquiry is being made to ascertain these facts?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied:

201. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It is not known as the matter is still under confidential enquiry.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes.

Regarding Hills Allowances to Government employees of U. K. & J. Hills

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) asked:

*202. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to refer to the answers to Unstarred Question No. 80 (g) and (h) given on the 30th August, 1958 on the floor of this House and state whether Government has completed the consideration of the matter of granting Hill Allowance to Government employees serving in the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills?

Capt. WILLIAM SON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

202.—The matter is still under consideration of the Government.

Cost of living index is higher at Shillong

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira) asked :

*203. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the cost of living index is higher at Shillong than at Aijal ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that he admitted this fact in a reply to a question put by the questioner during the last Assembly Session ?

(c) Whether Government have taken steps to grant Hill Allowance to the employees of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District as have been granted to the employees of the Mizo Hills District with retrospective effect in view of the higher cost of living in the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills District ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge, Tribal Areas Department) replied :

203. (a)—No, the cost of living index at Aijal is higher than that at Shillong.

(b)—No, my reply to unstarred Question No. 80 (g) of last August Session was "The comparative study of available statistics show that as conditions prevail at present, the cost of living index in United Khasi-Jaintia Hills is no way more favourable than that obtaining in other Hill Districts where the concession is admissible at present". I did not state that the cost of living index is higher at Shillong than at Aijal.

(c)—The question of granting Hill Allowance to the Government employees of the United Khasi-Jaintia Hills is still under the consideration of Government.

Progress of Construction Work in the Tihu-Harivanga-Sahpur Road in North Kamrup Division

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari West) asked:

*204. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (R. & B. wing) be pleased to state—

(a) How far the construction work of the Tihu-Harivanga-Sahpur Road (under North Kamrup Division) is in progress?

(b) How far the construction work of the road in question, have been made, this year?

(c) If not, why not?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. & B. Wing)] replied:

204. (a)—The progress of work shown below:—

1. 90 per cent earth-work done and bridges completed in 1st mile.

2. 10. per cent earth-work done and bridges completed in 2nd mile.

3. 60 per cent earth-work done in 3rd mile. There is no bridge.

(b)—Practically no work could be done during the current year. Only an amount of Rs. 110 has been spent this year.

(c)—Due to a dispute over the alignment in 3rd mile.

Acquisition of the Isabheel Garden Grant Land at Sagalmar bund under Patharkandi Police Station

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

*205. Will the Minister of Revenue (Land) be pleased to state—

(a) When the Isabheel Garden Grant Land at Sagalmar bund under Patharkandi Police Station in the district of Cachar was acquired by Government for giving settlement to the local landless people?

- (b) What is the area of the total land so acquired ?
- (c) How many families were allotted the said land and what premium was realised from them for giving the settlement ?
- (d) Whether the allottees have been given the physical possession on the land allotted to them ?
- (e) If not, why ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

205. (a)—The land in question was requisitioned from Isabheel Tea Estate in the year 1955-56 for allotment to landless people, but the lands are not yet acquired.

(b)—657 bighas 19 kathas and 8 chittaks.

(c)—82 families were allotted the land and Rs.3,280 being compensation has been realised.

(d)—17 families have already been given physical possession out of 82 families.

(e)—The allotment and delivery of actual physical possession could not be effected to the rest as there was encroachment on the land by Tribals from Tripura.

Messrs. Bridge and Building Corporation (Private), Ltd.,
doing contract works under the Assam P.W.D.
(R. and B.) Wing

Shri MANIK CHANDRA DAS (Tengakhat) asked :

*206. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Messrs. Bridge and Building Corporation (Private), Ltd., does contract works under the Assam P. W. D. (R.&B.) Wing ?
- (b) If so, who are the Directors and Shareholders of the Bridge and Building Corporation (Private), Ltd ?

(c) Whether Government have any information that the Managing Director of this concern is in any way related with the Additional Chief Engineer, Shri K. L. Majumdar?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the shares of the above concern are mainly held by the family members of the said Additional Chief Engineer?

(e) Whether it is a fact that even in spite of adverse report against this Firm by the Executive Engineer, Gauhati, the Superintending Engineer and the then Chief Engineer owing to bad the firm has got the maximum work under the direct jurisdiction of the Additional Chief Engineer?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied :

206. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The names have been given below:—

Names	No. of shares allotted	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)
(1) Shri Paresh Lal Majumdar ...	115	Managing Director.
(2) Shri Monoranjan Guha Neogi ...	95	Director.
(3) Shri Birendra Kumar Bose ...	80	"
(4) Shri Arun Kumar Ghose ...	70	"
(5) Shri Prafulla Ch. Das ...	50	"
(6) Shri Biresh Majumdar ...	50	Share-holder.
(7) Mrs. Lilavati Verma ...	25	"
(8) Shri Arabinda Ghose ...	10	"

(Total shares 500, allotted 495 and reserve 5)

(c)—Yes, he is a nephew of Shri K. L. Majumdar, Additional Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (R. & B. Wing).

(d)—No, this is not a fact. The number of shares held by Shri Paresh Lal Majumdar and his brother Shri Biresh Majumdar who are relatives of Shri K. L. Majumdar are 165 against the total number of allotted shares of 495.

(e)—There is no record of any adverse remarks against the firm either by the Chief Engineer, Superintending Engineer or the Executive Engineer, Gauhati.

Requisition of land from grants of Tanganagaon Tea Estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*207. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue (Land) be pleased to state—

(a) When a proposal of requisition of land from grants of Tanganagaon Tea Estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision was taken and what was the area of land in the proposal?

(b) What was the actual area of land requisitioned there in that year?

(c) What is the actual of land settled so far with flood affected and landless cultivators?

(d) What is the total area of the Tea garden grants of this Tanganagaon Tea Estate and the area under Tea and of this grants?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the area of land de-requisitioned, is now under paddy cultivation, although it was de-requisitioned for the purpose of Tea plantation on the request of the Tea planter?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

207. (a) to (e)—Information have been called for.

Requisition of land for Engineering College and Bhogdoi bund

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked:

*208. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government propose to requisition some lands from the people of Garamur Mouza for Engineering College and Bhogdoi bund ?

(b) If so, whether Government will be pleased to give first preference to these people in allotting lands ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

208. (a) & (b)—Information have been called for.

Tea garden grants of Bokel Tea Estate in Dibrugarh Tea Estate

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked

*209. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) The total area of Tea garden grants of Bokel Tea Estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

(b) The total area under Tea and of these grants ?

(c) What is the area of land available for requisition in order to settle the same with landless cultivators of the neighbouring villages ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

209. (a) to (c)—Information have been called for.

Occupation of land of Panbari Tea Company by villagers of certain villages of Tezpur Subdivision

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*210. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a number of villagers of villages Chenimari, Gorjuli, Gorpara, Ghagra Khachari, Mainajule, Manjuli of Tezpur Subdivision are occupying about 1,781 bighas of land of Panbari Tea Company since a long time ?

(b) If so, since how long have they been occupying the said land ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the said land is not a grant land of the said Tea Estate ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the occupant villagers are giving representation to the Government to take up the said lands and to settle the right of ownership with them ?

(e) If so, what decision Government has proposed to take ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

210. (a) to (e)—Information have been called for.

Allotment of lands to the Assam Co-operative Sugar Mill, Limited

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :

*211. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is any negotiation going on for allotting lands to the Assam Co-operative Sugar Mill, Limited, and some Co-operative Farms of Golaghat Subdivision ?
- (b) If so, what are the names of such Co-operative Farms with their address and the area of land given to each such farm ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that final orders for allotment of lands have not been issued ?
- (d) If so, what is the reason for such delay ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware of the public feeling that such undue delay cause delay in sugarcane cultivation and thus obstructs progress of the Government Scheme undertaken ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps by issuing necessary orders with a view to remove such difficulties ?
- (g) Whether the Assam Co-operative Sugar Mill, Limited and Nabajuti Farm lately applied for requisition of land in Panka Grant in Marangi Mouza for sugarcane cultivation ?
- (h) Whether Panka grant is a contiguous plot to Rungbongpathar of Marangi Mouza where Nabajuti Farm had a huge area under sugarcane cultivation ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that the Government did not allot land to Co-operative Farm in the said Grant but allotted lands of the said Grant to refugees ?
- (j) Whether Government are aware that by their said action the local landless people, specially uneducated ones, have been deprived of their legitimate claims and thus discouraged Co-operative Farming ?
- (k) Whether Government propose to reconsider the matter and allot lands of the Panka Grant to the Co-operative Sugar Mill or Nabajuti Farm ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

211. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A list showing the names of the Co-operative Farms with the areas allotted to them and the Co-operative Farms whose cases are under consideration is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No.S.96).

(c)—Orders of settlement are pending final orders of dereservation where the lands are included in Village Grazing Grounds and Subdivisional Officer has been directed to give advance possession of the land. In other cases orders have been issued to Settlement Officer to issue pattas.

(d)—Certain rules and formalities as prescribed in dereservation rules are to be observed and it takes time.

(e)—Delay in issuing pattas should not cause any obstruction as direction for giving advance possession of the land has been issued.

(f)—In view of the instruction already issued for delivery of advance possession, no difficulty in starting cultivation is envisaged.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—Yes.

(i)—Yes.

(j)—The area at Panka Grant had been reserved for settlement to some of the refugees evicted from Mikir Hills long before the Co-operative Farming applied for the same. As such, these lands could not be allotted to the local landless people.

(k)—Does not arise.

Recurring and non-recurring grant given to the Municipal authority of Nalbari

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*212. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether recurring and non-recurring grant are given to the Municipal authority of Nalbari in the district of Kamrup ?

(b) If so, what is the amount of grant so given during the last five years ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that the present grant is not sufficient for improvement and day-to-day functioning of the Municipality ?

- (d) Whether there is any request from the side of the Municipal authority to sanction increased grants ?
- (e) If so, whether Government proposes to consider the prayer ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

- 212.(a)—Yes.
- (b)—Statement showing the amount of grant is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No.S.97.)
- (c)—Yes.
- (d)—Yes.
- (e)—Under consideration of Government.

Formation of a Town Development Committee at Nalbari

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*213. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that Nalbari is a fast developing town in the State of Assam ?
- (b) If so, whether Government has formulated any plan to form a town Development Committee for systematic arrangement of extension and planned work ?
- (c) If not, whether Government will give proper consideration of this matter ?
- (d) If so, when ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

213.(a)—Yes.

(b)—Government encourage all Subdivisional Development Boards to form Sub-committees for Town Development, etc. A sub-committee for Nalbari town has accordingly been functioning.

- (c) & (d)—Do not arise.

Drainage System in Nalbari Municipality**Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari West)** asked :

*214. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that the system of present drainage in Nalbari Municipality is unplanned and unhygienic ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that many public petitions have been submitted to the Municipality for improvement of drainage ?
- (c) If so, whether Government proposes to direct the Municipality to take a planned programme in the matter ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

214.(a), (b) & (c)—The information have been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup.

Land Settlement Advisory Board**Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog)** asked :

*215. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that the Sub-divisional Officer, Barpeta is taking no interest in putting up all the petitions for land before the Land Settlement Advisory Board ?
- (b) If so, why ?
- (c) Is he dictatorial ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

215.(a) & (b)—It is not necessary to put up all the petitions for land before the Land Settlement Advisory Committee. A copy of the Government instructions regarding functions of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No.S.98).

(c)—No.

**Total amount of grant received by the Government
under Article 275 of the Constitution**

**Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur
(Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]** asked :

*216. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state —

- (a) The total amount of grants received by Government from the Central Government, under Article 275 of the Constitution both for Hills and Plains Tribal people of the State from the year 1952 upto the 31st March 1958 (to be shown year-wise and Hills and Plains Tribal Grant-wise) ?
- (b) Total expenditure out of the grants so received in making payment to the Officers appointed for execution of the Schemes drawn for these Grants (to be shown year-wise) ?
- (c) The total allotment made to each of the Sub-divisions (to be shown year-wise) since 1952 upto 31st March 1959 ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied :

216. (a)—The total amount of grants received under Article 275 of the Constitution are as follows—

		<i>Hills</i>		<i>Plains</i>	
		Rs.		Rs.	
1951-52	...	24.00	lakhs		
1952-53	...	32.24	,,	9.995	lakhs
1953-54	...	51.60	,,	14.29	,,
1954-55	...	107.71	,,	24.00	,,
1955-56	...	134.42	,,	67.42	,,
1956-57	...	125.00	,,	24.86	,,
1957-58	...	120.075	,,	19.373	,,

(b)—The total expenditure incurred in the entertainment of additional staff for the execution of the Development Schemes financed out of Article 275 grants year-wise is shown below—

	<i>Hills</i>	<i>Plains Tribal</i>
	Rs.	Rs.
1951-52 ...	2.00 lakhs	
1952-53 ...	2.52 "	
1953-54 ...	3.23 "	0.006 lakhs
1954-55 ...	3.93 "	0.25 "
1955-56 ...	6.07 "	0.40 "
1956-57 ...	4.19 "	0.44 "
1957-58 ...	5.20 "	0.89 "

(c)—The grants utilised through non-official agencies such as grants for water supply, self-help grants and grants to non-official organisations are distributed Subdivision-wise in the Plains Districts according to Plains Tribal population and in the Hills Districts on area-cum-population basis. As regards other grants which are directly utilised by the Government for taking up District or Subdivisional Level Schemes the distribution is made, as far as funds permit, on the comparative needs of the areas as assessed by the respective heads of Departments.

As list showing the distribution of grants under Article 275 programme for self-help scheme, rural water supply, grants to non-official organisations and grants for cultural activities is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No.S.99).

Number of employees including Officers employed in the Sericulture and Weaving Department

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

*217. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

- How many officers are there in the Sericulture and Weaving Department ?
- What is the number of total employees in that Department ?
- How many persons have been sanctioned loans by this Department during the last five years ?
- Whether it is a fact that a loan petition of Shri Horan Chandra Talukdar of Sarbhog is pending since 1951 ?

- (e) Why loans are not issued in time ?
 (f) Whether there has been any improvement of Sericulture and Weaving in Assam through this Department ?
 (g) If so, what ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

(a) & (b) বেচন আৰু বয়ন বিভাগত গেজেটেড অফিচাৰ ২৮ জন আৰু চতুৰ্থ শ্ৰেণীৰ কৰ্মচাৰী সকলক লৈ non-Gazatted কৰ্মচাৰী ৯৪৪ জন আছে।

(c) ১৯৫৪-৫৫ ... ১৮ জন।

১৯৫৫-৫৬ ... ৩৯ ,,

১৯৫৬-৫৭ ... ১৯ ,,

১৯৫৭-৫৮ ... ১১৯ ,,

১৯৫৮-৫৯ ... ১৯৯ ,,

(d) হয়, ১৯৫১ চনৰ পৰা নহয় ১৯৫২ চনৰ পৰা অপৰিহাৰ্য্য কাৰণে আৰু ঋণ দিয়াৰ নিয়ম আদি সালসলনি কৰাৰ কাৰণে স্থগিত ৰখা হৈছে।

(e) ঋণৰ দাবীসমূহ বিভিন্ন আঁচনিৰ যোগ্যতা অযোগ্যতা পৰীক্ষা কৰা, জমিন দিয়া সম্পত্তিৰ কোনো গোলমাল আছেনে নাই, Bond চহী কৰা আদি বিভিন্ন বিষয়ৰ কাৰণে কিছু পলম হোৱা অপৰিহাৰ্য্য।

(f) & (g) ৰাজ্যৰ গাঁওবাসী সকলৰ আৰ্থিক, সামাজিক উন্নয়নত এই বেচন বয়ন বিভাগে সন্তোষজনক ভাবে প্ৰগতিৰ পথত আগবাঢ়িছে ; নানা বিষয়ত বিশেষকৈ অগ্ৰগতিৰ পথত অগ্ৰসৰ হৈছে ; এই সম্বন্ধে বিষদ বিৱৰণ দি লাইব্ৰেৰী টেবুলত স্থাপন কৰা হৈছে। (Please see Library Register No.S.100.)

†**Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Sericulture and Weaving)** replied :

217. (a) & (b)—There are 28 Gazetted Officers and 944 Non-gazetted Officers excluding the 4th Grade Officials in the Sericulture and Weaving Department.

(c)—The number of persons granted loan under the Assam Aid to Industries (Small and Cottage Industries) Act, 1955 is as follows—

1954-55	...	...	...	...	...	18 numbers.
1955-56	...	...	...	...	...	39 ,,
1956-57	...	...	...	...	...	19 ,,
1957-58	...	...	...	...	...	119 ,,
1958-59	...	...	...	...	...	199 ,,

†Minister's replies in Assameses

(d)—Yes, but not since 1951 but 1952 for unavoidable reasons and change of rules subsequently for granting loans.

(e)—Loan applications have to go through various processes such as enquiry into feasibility of the scheme, non-encumbrances of the property offered as security, execution of bonds, etc., for which certain delay is unavoidable.

(f) & (g)—Fully cognizant of its share of responsibility towards socio-economic development of the rural population of the State, the Department of Sericulture and Weaving has, by degrees, been making satisfactory pace of progress in every sector of the industry. The improvement so far made in the State under various programmes is detailed in the note placed on the library table.

Poor harvest of Paddy in Palengi area of Sibsagar

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*218. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government have lately received information from the questioner that due to flood and damage caused by pest, the Palengi area in Sibsagar had a very poor harvest of paddy cultivation this year ?

(b) Whether any officer inspected and surveyed the area ?

(c) Whether the Deputy Minister, Public Works Department visited the area and if so, what is his remark ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

218. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The information is being collected from the local officer.

(c)—Yes. A copy of the remark of the Deputy Minister, Public Works Department is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. S.101)

Number of flood-affected families in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Sakhowa) asked :

*219. Will the Minister-in-charge of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of families uprooted by the erosion and flood of the Brahmaputra and flood in Northern part of Lahoal Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (b) How many of them have since been rehabilitated and how many of them are awaiting rehabilitation ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to rehabilitate the rest ?
- (d) If so, how ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

219. (a) to (d)—The information are being collected from local Officer.

Re: Eviction of certain families occupying Khas land at Borolekhaiti and Bhokelikanda in Mangaldai Subdivision

Shri DANDI RAM DUTTA (Mangaldai) asked :

*220. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that about 200 families occupying Khas land at Borolekhaiti and Bhokelikanda of Rangamati Mouza in Mangaldai Subdivision is being mercilessly evicted by damaging their crops, etc., without any previous notice to them ?—
- (b) Whether these people have applied for settlement of the Khas lands in their possession and if so, what has become of those applications ?
- (c) Whether Government will hold an enquiry about the incident and stop eviction at present ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

220. (a) to (c)—Information has been called for from the local Officer.

(Starred Question Nos.221-222 were not put and answered as the Questioner was absent)

Regarding relief to the flood-affected families of Lorwa Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri KAKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked

*223. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) How many families of Lorwa Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision have been eroded and affected by the last Brahmaputra flood ?
- (b) What step has been taken by the authority to give them relief ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

223. (a)—81 families.

(b)—Rs.900 was given as Gratuitous relief and Rs.3,000 was issued as cattle loan to most deserving families. Most of the affected families are also getting seed loan. The question of rehabilitation of the affected families in an alternative place is under consideration of Government.

Disciplinary proceedings against the Mondals responsible for sanctioning Cattle loan to undeserving persons in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*224. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs 50,000 (fifty thousand) was given to Sibsagar Subdivision as cattle loan during this year as first instalment ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that many undeserving people such as Elephant owners, Truck owners, etc., have got the loan ?

- (c) If so, who were the officers who sanctioned such loans to the undeserving persons and what action was taken against the officers concerned ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

224. (a)—Yes, and another amount of Rupees one lakh as 2nd instalment.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Some Mondals and one Secretary, Primary Panchayat are responsible for submitting false and misleading reports. Action is being taken to draw up disciplinary proceedings against the Mondals.

Notices served on Road-side Stall-keepers in Shillong

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*225. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether notices for eviction have been sent to the road-side stall-keepers at Shillong ?

(b) If so, what is the reason ?

(c) Against how many stall-keepers notices have been served ?

(d) How many of them have been fined ?

(e) Whether any will be provided with alternative sites to install their shops ?

(f) If so, when ?

(g) Whether Government are alive to seriousness of the problem ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister Local Self-Government) replied :

225. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The roadside stalls mar the beauty of the town and impede the passage of traffic and pedestrians.

(c)—171 stall-keepers.

(d)—6 have been fined.

(e), () & (g)—The question of providing them with alternative sites is the responsibility of the Municipal to decide but Government will consider any desirable scheme submitted by the Municipal Board for this purpose. Government will however consider such schemes only when all encroachers have been evicted.

Number of Co-operative Societies organised in Sibsagar Subdivision during 1957-58 and 1958-59

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira) asked:

*226. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Department be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Co-operative Societies were organised in the Sibsagar Subdivision during each of the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (b) How many of these Societies were duly registered during these years ?
- (c) What is the minimum and the maximum time necessary for registration of a Co-operative Society from the date of its organisation ?
- (d) How long an Assistant Registrar of Co-operative can delay taking action on an already organised Society ?
- (e) Whether an Assistant Registrar of Co-operative is competent to make minor corrections on the Bye-laws already submitted by the Deputy Co-operative Officers, after organisation ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operative) replied:

226. (a) to (e)—Information have been called for.

Number of Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, etc., in the Assam Secretariat

Shri DHIRSINGH DEURI [Lahirighat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

*227. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries in the Assam Secretariat in Shillong in the year 1957 ? (The figures to be shown separately).
- (b) What is their number at present ? (The figures are to be shown separately).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied:

227. (a)—The number in 1957 was—

Secretaries—13 including Chief Secretary, 2 Chief Engineers, and Secretary, Legislative and Judicial Department.

Additional Secretaries—4 (*Ex-officio*), viz., the Chief Electoral Officer, the two Additional Chief Engineers and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner.

Joint Secretary—1.

Under Secretaries—17 including 4 for Public Works Department.

Assistant Secretaries—10 including 3 for Public Works Department.

(b)—The number at present is—

Secretaries—13 including the Chief Secretary, the two Chief Engineers, Secretary, Medical and Secretary, Education. The Development Commissioner is *ex-officio* Secretary, Planning and Development and the Commissioner of Hills Division is *ex-officio* Secretary, Tribal Areas Department. The Director of Public Instruction is Secretary, Education in addition to his own duties and the Chief Electoral Officer is working as part-time Medical Secretary.

Additional Secretaries—1, *Ex-officio* 4.

Joint Secretaries—5 (including 1 *ex-officio*).

Under Secretaries—16 including 4 for Public Works Department.

Assistant Secretaries—21 including 3 for Public Works Department, 1 for revision of Manuals and 1 in lieu of the post of Registrar (Civil).

Regarding the operation of Juvenile Smoking Act, 1923

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*228. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Assam Students and Juvenile Smoking Act, 1923 is in operation in the State of Assam?

(b) If so, whether any case under this Act was instituted in different courts of Assam during the period of last 10 years?

- (c) If so whether Government will furnish the number of such cases instituted Subdivision-wise during that period ?
- (d) If not, whether Government propose to re-enforce this Act immediately all over Assam ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

228. (a) The Act came into force with effect from 1st January 1924 throughout the state. Apparently the Act has not been strictly enforced.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government will consider.

(Starred question Nos.229, standing in the name of Maulavi Tazuddin Ahmed was not put and answered as the member was absent)

Regarding the removal of liquor shop, Garamur Mauza

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

*230. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that the liquor shop which is situated on the main road of Garamur Mouza badly affects the passers-by mainly the school going children of the Mouza ?
- (b) If so, whether Government will be pleased to abolish or remove that shop from its present site ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) replied :

230. (a) & (b)—The information is being collected.

Regarding the recommendations of Land Settlement Advisory Board

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked :

*231. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Land Settlement Advisory Board's advice is obligatory to Government of the local official ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that often times these advises are not implemented when the officers differ even in very minute details ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that the Land Settlement Advisory Board of North Lakhimpur advised the Subdivisional Officer to make a survey of landless people throughout the Subdivision through the Primary Panchayats about a year back and it was not implemented and if so, what is the cause of non-implementation of the same ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied

231. (a)—No. The Advisory Committee's recommendations are only advice ; but they are generally accepted by the local officers.

(b)—In case of difference, the officer is to forward the entire matter to Government for orders according to the present instructions of Government.

(c)—No such resolution appears to have been adopted in any meeting of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee. The question of its implementation does not, therefore arise. Besides, this is a matter for the Statistical Department to take up.

Distribution of lands in or near Gauhati town

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*232. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report published by a staff reporter of *Natun Assamiya* in its issue, dated the 31st January 1959, alleging improper distribution of land at Gauhati and its suburbs published under caption ?

(b) Is it a fact that in the areas like Kharghuli, Chandmari, Fatasil, Ulubari, Kamakhya and Sarania, near Gauhati, land has been settled with high salaried officials, big businessmen and influential persons of the Government who are neither landless nor poor ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that hundreds of landless, homeless and lowpaid employees who approached the Government for lands have not been provided with land ?
- (d) If so, why the question of landless and lowpaid employees have not been given due consideration ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

232. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No. Land has been settled only with deserving persons who have no land in or near Gauhati town.

(c)—Waste land available for settlement in Gauhati town is limited. Naturally all who applied could not be provided with land.

(d)—Government are giving due consideration to the cases of landless and lowpaid employees on each occasion of settlement of land at Gauhati.

Regarding deputation allowances to the employees of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*233. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he is aware that on the request of Mr. J. Rynjah, the first Chief Executive Member of the District Council, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills, by his letter No.DC.1, dated Shillong, the 9th July 1952 to the Secretary to the Government of Assam, Tribal Areas Department, some Government servants who were serving in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills were placed by Government order in letter No.TAD/R/36/52/6, dated 31st July 1952, at the service of the District Council on usual condition of foreign service with the stipulation that the amount of deputation allowance to be given was to be decided in consultation with the Tribal Areas Department ?

- (b) Whether he is aware that these Government servants on the conditions stated in the said Government letter agreed to serve in the

- District Council and join that service on 1st August 1952 ?
- (c) Whether he is aware that the District Council, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills by its letter No.DC.1/3/52/1209-1219, dated 1st November 1952 to the Secretary, Tribal Areas Department proposed to fix the Deputation allowance at 20 per cent of their substantive pay and asked the Secretary to move Government for early approval ?
 - (d) Whether he is aware that these Government Servants sent their petitions to the Minister, Tribal Areas Department, the 24th June 1958 ?
 - (e) What action has been taken by Government in the matter and the reasons for delay in sending them the reply and in allowing them to draw their deputation allowance ?
 - (f) Whether the Minister is aware that in the Budget of the District Council, United Khasi-Jaintia Hills provision has been made to pay allowance to these Government servants on deputation ?
 - (g) When these Government servants will be allowed to draw the deputation allowance ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

233. (a)—At the request of the Chief Executive Member, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council, some Government employees working in the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Shillong, were deputed to the said District Council on 1st August 1952 on usual foreign service conditions. In sanctioning the transfer of these employees to the District Council, the Government did not make any commitment to grant them any deputation allowance. It was simply stated that the amount of deputation allowance to be given by the District Council, as proposed by the Council in their letter No.DC.1, dated 9th July 1952 asking for the services of the employees concerned, should be fixed in consultation with Tribal Areas Department.

(b)—Some members of the staff of the Deputy Commissioner reported to him that they joined the services under the District Council on 1st August 1952 on the understanding that the conditions regarding the posts and scales of pay

attached thereto, as laid down in the letter No.DC.1, dated 9th July 1952, from Shri J. Rynjah, Chief Executive Member of the District Council to the Secretary to the Government of Assam, Tribal Areas Department, would be accepted by Government and that their services would be treated as on Foreign Service as laid down in Chapter XII-Foreign Service of the Fundamental Rules.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The Minister did not receive the petition and was not aware of it.

(e)—The Government had examined the proposal of the District Council to fix the deputation allowance at 20 per cent of the substantive pay of the respective employees and was of the view that the grant of such allowance to all the Government employees deputed to District Council service, without examining the special circumstances and conditions justifying such allowance in each case, might be very unfair to the other Government employees working in the same place and under similar conditions and circumstances. As there are Government employees deputed to other District Councils also on Foreign Service basis, a general question as to what extent special circumstances and conditions exist to justify the grant of deputation allowance for all the staff so deputed was simultaneously examined. It was considered necessary, in order to keep a uniformity in the matter of granting additional remuneration to the Government employees deputed for service under the various District Councils, to have complete information as to the names and number of such Government employees together with their respective basic pay and the amounts of different allowances drawn by them under the District Councils. It took considerable time to get the particulars required have now been received and it is expected that the Government will soon come to a decision in the matter.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Does not arise in view of (e) above.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : What is the final conclusion of the Government regarding the deputation allowance of these officers ?

Capt. WILLIAMSOR A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) : The deputation allowance is not contributed by the Government but paid by the respective District Councils.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY : The Khasi and Jaintia Hills District Council has already put some amount in the budget for that but they are waiting for the order of the Government in the Tribal Areas Department.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) ; The District Council has an authority to pass its own budget. It does not require any sanction from the Government.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : The Tribal Areas Department ask the District Council to consult Government in this matter that is in regard to the amount ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : As far as fixation of the amount to be paid as deputation allowance by the District Council is concerned, the District Council authority, whenever they have proposal to pay such an allowance' has got to do that in consultation with and with the approval of the Tribal Areas Department for the reasons started already.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY : Has the Tribal Areas Department approved that ? That is what I want to know.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : I have already replied to that Sir, and my reply was that in order to have a uniformity in the payment of the deputation allowance by the different District Councils, we have been collecting information from other districts as to the amount being paid by them to the different employees on deputation allowance and other allowances and it took time to get the information from the different District Councils. As the information required have been received, Government will now decide as to the amount that may be paid as deputation allowance to the deputed officers.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS ROY : I understand that Government has no decided yet.

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA : Yes, because so long we have been collecting the required information and as the information have been received, Government will now decide.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question hour is over.

(Unanswered starred Questions printed under Assembly Rule 47)

Regarding shifting of Liquor shop from Dibrugarh Town area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*234. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Barsaikia Liquor shop is situated in cantonment area of Dibrugarh Town ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that when this Liquor shop was located first, the Town area of Dibrugarh was not extended to the extent of the liquor shop ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that a number of young people use to drink liquor from this shop and use to play the part of road side "Romeos" specially when the School and College Girls return home

- (d) Whether it is a fact that sometimes these road side "Romeos" molested or teased Girls passing through the Road ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that a girl shop Assistant of Co-operative Society of Assam Medical College was forcibly dragged away from the public road on 2nd March last by some of these road side "Romeos" ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to remove this liquor shop from the Town area to a distant place ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) replied:

234. (a) to (f)—The information is being collected.

Basis of granting grant-in-aid by Government to Middle English Schools in the State

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMAH (Dergaon) asked :

*235. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) The basis of granting Grants-in-aid by Government to Middle English Schools in the State ?
- (b) The number of recognised Middle English School in the State that are not receiving Grants-in-aid from the Government as yet ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware of the necessity of establishment of Middle English Schools and their maintenance in Localities where there are facilities of higher education ?
- (d) The number of recognised Middle English Schools in Golaghat Subdivision which have not received any grant-in-aid from Government so far names of these institutions may be furnished ?
- (e) Whether these educational institutions will receive any grant from the Government for compensation to teachers this year ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that some of the recognised Middle English Schools in Golaghat Subdivision were established seven or eight years ago but have not received any financial help from the Government as yet ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

235. (a)—Grants-in-aid are sanctioned on the principles and conditions of grant-in-aid as published in *Assam Gazette Notification No. 117, dated 15th October 1957.*

(b)—100.

(c)—No. Where facilities of higher education already exist, it is not desirable to start rival Schools.

(d)—Upto-date informations are being collected.

(e)—All recognised schools which fulfil this conditions as stated in (a) above will be given recurring grants for maintenance by the Government.

(f)—Informations are being collected.

Regarding the pay of Primary Panchayat Secretaries appointed after 1956

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*236. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that pay of Secretaries of Primary Panchayats appointed after 1956 was fixed at Rs.50 per mensem?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the Secretaries of Primary Panchayats of Dibrugarh Subdivision have been paid at Rs.25 per mensem?

(c) Whether Government is aware that provisions made by different Rural Panchayats in their budgets to pay the Primary Secretaries at Rs.50 per mensem were cancelled in the Rural Development office, Dibrugarh, without assigning any reason?

(d) If so, why this discrimination has been made in the case of Secretaries of Dibrugarh Subdivision?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Rural Development) replied:

236. (a)—Yes.

(b), (c) & (d)—The information has been called for.

Number of Ayurvedic Dispensaries in the State

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*237. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

(a) How many Ayurvedic Dispensaries are there at present in the State?

(b) What are their names district-wise?

(c) How much money have been given up-till now to each of them?

(d) Whether there are provision for supplying free medicine to the patients charging only the prescription fees?

(e) What are the prescription fees in those dispensaries?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

237. (a)—26.

(b)—Sibsagar

Nowgong

Darrang

Kamrup

Goalpara

Cachar

United Mikir and
North Cachar
Hills.

- | | |
|-----|--------------------|
| .. | (1) Lahing, |
| | (2) Adhara Satra, |
| | (3) Sapekhati, |
| | (4) Dergaon, |
| ... | (5) Puranigudam, |
| .. | (6) Deomarnai, |
| | (7) Chengelipara, |
| | (8) Borgaon, |
| | (9) Sonitpur, |
| ... | (10) Gangapukhuri, |
| | (11) Maukhuli, |
| | (12) Barbang, |
| | (13) Baruaajani, |
| | (14) Bhomlahati, |
| | (15) Sutargaon, |
| | (16) Nimua, |
| ... | (17) Bisandai, |
| | (18) Malangdubi, |
| ... | (19) Nilambazar, |
| | (20) Harinagar, |
| | (21) Monacherra, |
| | (22) Chesri, |
| | (23) Chandpur, |
| | (24) Palarpar, |
| | (25) Cheragi. |
| | (26) Haflong. |

(c)—Information being collected.

(d)—According to rules, poor patients are treated free of all charges. There is no rule regarding prescription charge.

(e)—Does not arise.

Opening of Primary Health Units

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*238. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- How many Primary Health Units have been taken up by now ?
- What are their names ?
- How many more Primary Health Units will be taken up ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical)
replied :

238. (a)—Government have sanctioned to the opening of 59 Primary Health Units of which 45 are now functioning and the rest will start functioning as soon as the buildings are completed.

- (b)—
- (1) Sualkuchi.
 - (2) Hajo.
 - (3) Golagaon.
 - (4) North Jamuguri.
 - (5) Pathorighat.
 - (6) Bhogamukh.
 - (7) Kaloogaon.
 - (8) Sarupathar.
 - (9) Kumaranisiga.
 - (10) Bihpuria.
 - (11) Jalalpur.
 - (12) Uttar Kanchanpur.
 - (13) Baroigram.
 - (14) Barapujia.
 - (15) Bhurbandha.
 - (16) Bongaigaon.
 - (17) Ballamguri.
 - (18) Naoboisa.
 - (19) Kathiatoli.
 - (20) Chimona Basti.
 - (21) Ramkrishna Nagar.
 - (22) Kachua Dun.
 - (23) Orang.
 - (24) Morabazar.
 - (25) Nalbari.
 - (26) North Gauhati.
 - (27) Azara
 - (28) Boko.
 - (29) Nowgong.
 - (30) Charali.
 - (31) Sipajhar.
 - (32) Nakachari.
 - (33) Kamalabari.
 - (34) Gaurisagar.
 - (35) Kamarbhandha.
 - (36) Dhemaji.
 - (37) Ghilamara.
 - (38) Bikrampur.
 - (39) Lala.

- (40) Pātharkandi.
- (41) Marigaon.
- (42) Jakhla Bandha.
- (43) South Salmara.
- (44) Kachhugaon.
- (45) Nongstoin.
- (46) Laskein.
- (47) Boithalangsu.
- (48) Ganjung.
- (49) Thinsulthia.
- (50) Resu.
- (51) Mornoi.
- (52) Boitamari.
- (53) Bokakhat.
- (54) Odalguri.
- (55) Dhekiajuli.
- (56) Lakhipur.
- (57) Algapur.
- (58) Patsaku.
- (59) Dholai.

(c)—21 more will be opened during 1959-60 and 1960-61 bringing the total to 80.

Completion of the road from Kaithalkuchi Railway Station side to Chamata under North Kamrup Division

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*239. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the road from Kaithalkuchi Railway Station side to village Chamata under North Kamrup Division is still to be completed even though the work began since 4 years ago ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the portion of road from Kaithalkuchi to Sahpur village not maintained since months together ?

(c) If so, why ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

239. (a)—Yes, a portion of 2nd mile of the road from Kaithalkuchi Railway Station to village Chamata could not be completed due to the strong obstruction from the villagers of the locality.

(b) & (c)—The portions of the road already completed are being maintained by Public Works Department and the incomplete portion of the road is not maintained due to reasons mentioned at (a) above.

Proposal to construct Sub-Judge, Additional District and Session Judge's Court building in Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*240. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that no buildings for Courts of the Sub-Judge, Additional District and Sessions Judge and their offices and record rooms have yet been constructed at Dibrugarh?
- (b) Whether Government propose to take up Schemes to provide accommodation for these Courts Offices and record rooms?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that old case records of Civil Court of Sadar Munsiff at Dibrugarh are being kept in gunny bags in Court rooms?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh could not provide so far, record rooms for preservation of old but valuable case records of the Courts for future?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that there is no witness shed and Court Ejlas in Dibrugarh District Court?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Dibrugarh Bar Association has brought these difficulties at Dibrugarh to the notice of the Government?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

240. (a)—There are no separate buildings constructed for these particular purposes.

(b)—A proposal from Deputy Commissioner was received and will be considered in due time.

- (c)—It is not a fact.
 (d)—It is not a fact.
 (e)—It is a fact that there is no witness shed.
 (f)—It is not a fact.

Regarding Travelling Allowance to Tribal Representatives of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills attending Republic Day Celebrations in New Delhi

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*241. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that three tribal representatives from the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District attended the Republic Day Celebrations at New Delhi in 1957 as State guests on the condition that the State Government would bear their travelling allowances, etc. ?
 (b) If so, whether all the three representatives performed their journey by rail in the First Class air conditioned compartment from Calcutta to Delhi ?
 (c) If so, whether it is a fact that full fares for the said rail journey from Calcutta to Delhi have not been allowed to one of the three representatives, though the same has been paid to the other two ?
 (d) If so, what is the reason for this discrimination ?

Capt WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied :

241. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The Government did not sanction the journey by air conditioned class of Railway for any of the representatives. The authority concerned had been requested to check up if two representatives had drawn their Travelling Allowance bills at rates covering the full fares for the air conditioned class. The reply is awaited.

(d)—Does not arise.

Non-completion of Sensua-Ali upto Marangi Charali in Golaghat Subdivision

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked :

*242. Will the Minister in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) What were the reasons for non-completing or abandoning the Sensua Ali up to Marangi Charali in Golaghat Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Railway Authority is not allowing to cross its line ?
- (c) If so, who is responsible for such delay ?
- (d) Will the Government be pleased to take step for early completion of the work ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [(Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings))] replied :

242. (a) & (b)—The work could not be completed owing to the fact that crossing of vehicles and taking up of earthwork on either side of the Railway line at the point of crossing are not allowed by the Railway authority. Question of abandoning the road does not arise.

(c) & (d)—The proposal for provision of a Railway level crossing is under correspondence with the Railway Authority.

Proposal to open a Leprosy Treatment Centre at Koratipar Dispensary

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*243. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a large number of tribal people in Koratipar area, Kamalabari Mouza, Majuli, Jorhat Subdivision, have lately been infected with Leprosy ?
- (b) Whether Government have lately received any representation from any M.L.A. for opening of a treatment centre at Koratipar Dispensary ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to open a Leprosy treatment centre at Koratipar Dispensary ?
- (d) If so, when ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

243.(a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—Yes. The question of opening a Leprosy Treatment Centre at Koratipar is under active consideration of Government.

(d)—Does not arise.

Merging of Bhallah Ballabhabhi Patel Local Board Dispensary and Subsidised Dispensary of Bhalla into one

Shri MAHADEB DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

*244. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Bhallah Baliabhabhi Patel Local Board Dispensary was headed over to the Barpeta Local Board by the Public since a year back ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Local Board has been managing the said dispensary ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that previous subsidised dispensary of Bhalla is still functioning with an unqualified Doctor ?

(d) Whether Government are aware that it is a double waste of public money from both sides ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that there are two Doctors in the dispensary one from Local Board and another from Government ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

244.(a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes. The question of merging the two into one is under consideration of Government along with the taking over of Local Board Dispensaries by Government.

(e)—Yes, one in the Local Board Dispensary and the other in the Government Subsidised dispensary.

Total amount of money spent for Boro paddy cultivation during the years 1957 and 1958

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*245. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) What is the total amount of money spent out of the State Exchequer for Boro paddy cultivation ?

during the years 1957 and 1958 (upto 31st December 1958) ?

- (b) How many maunds of paddy (Boro) were harvested during these two years and the total amount of money received by Government as profit ?
- (c) Total amount of money sanctioned to Sibsagar District for Boro paddy cultivation during the years 1957 and 1958 ?
- (d) Total maunds of Boro paddy harvested during these two years in Sibsagar District and the profit received by Government either in cash or in kind during these years ?
- (e) The area where these Boro paddies were cultivated in Sibsagar district ?
- (f) Whether this was grown or cultivated in any purely Tribal area or areas of the District of Sibsagar ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Agriculture) replied :

During 1957

During 1958

245(a)—

Rs.2,20,485·00.

Rs.29,879·00.

(b)—

85,455 maunds and these were used by the producers themselves.

Can be reported after harvest, the season of which is ahead

(c)—

Rs.4,780·00

...

(a) Rs.88,520 was distributed a short term loan to Boro cultivators through Central Co-operative Bank, Limited.

(b) Rs.72,600 was sanctioned for Test Relief work by way of Boro paddy cultivations for reclamation of land and construction of Minor Irrigation Project and the same is being utilised.

(d)—

Paddy harvested	Out-turn in kind	In cash
972 bighas	3,198 mds. of paddy	Rs.8,420 by selling of 605 mds. of paddy.

7,488 bighas has been transplanted,
yield of which can be reported after
harvest.

(e)—

- (1) Jhanjimukh, (2) Majuli,
(3) Rangagorah, (4) Elengmora,
(5) Lakojan, (6) Matimora,
(7) Balijan, (8) Marangi, (9) Neghe-
ritting, (10) Dimow Ikarani,
(11) Dharbari Momoni-Pathar.
(12) Desangmukh, (13) Desangkah,
(14) Nitai Kowargaon, (15) Bokabeel,
(16) Duaragaon, (17) Khonamukh.

- (1) Jelengitop, (2) Kwaimari,
(3) Jhanjimukh, (4) Bamku-
kurachowa, (5) Kamarkhatowal,
(6) Bongaon, (7) Doloigaon,
(8) Balichpari, (9) Natigarh,
(10) Elengmora, (11) Randhani-
jan, (12) Majuli, (13) Dhara-
gaon, (14) Rongagorah,
(15) Beelipathar, (16) Mawjan,
(17) Jamuguri, (18) Ghiladhari,
(19) Motohonitoo beel,
(20) Dasamua, (21) Pankagaon,
(22) Negheriting, (23) Bhokot-
gaon, (24) Kurukkagaon,
(25) Sepenakubua, (26) Gebka,
(27) Kohora, (28) Haluagaon,
(29) Ist Siladuk, (30) Kajironga,
(31) Gupinibar, (32) Mohpora,
(33) Kohora, (34) Gorobasti.
(35) Bongoragaon, (36) Besa-
pathar, (37) Methonisola,
(38) Diphoto Pathar,
(39) Agratoli, (40) Garu-
charabeel, (41) Alichiga
Boloma, (42) Chitaldhubi-Afala,
(42) Teportalgoihin, (44) Kath-
pula, (45) Dimoromukh Miri,
(46) Dimow Ikarani,
(47) Majumelia Fakalai,
(48) Sarupalengi, (49) Dhudar-
mukh, (50) Dhuivari,
(51) Laibeel Miri, (52) Bhaluka-
guri, (53) Owguri, (55) Keseli-
mai, (55) Jaysagar, (56) Da-
dhora, (57) Dabahi beel,
(58) Duaragaon, (59) Nimai-
garh.

(f)—Nil.

Five hundred bighas have
been cultivated purely in
Tribal Areas and 1,561
bighas have been cultiva-
ted in Tribal Areas and
General Backward Areas.

Regarding Housing accommodation of the Government Officers

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*246. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there is acute scarcity of housing accommodation in the towns of Assam for the Government officers ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that the house rent in the towns is exorbitantly high ?
- (c) What is the rate of house rent allowance admissible to the Government servants (to be stated category-wise) ?
- (d) Whether the house rent allowance given is sufficient to cover the house rent prevailing in the towns ?
- (e) If not, whether Government propose to provide quarters to such officers ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

246. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Information is being collected.

(d)—Information is being collected.

(e)—There is no such proposal in general, at present.

Information is being collected as to whether any department or departments have any such proposal, to provide quarters to any class or classes of officers, under their control.

Conversion of artificial Insemination Centre at Shillong as residential house of Director of Veterinary

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMAH (Digboi) asked :

*247. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the artificial Insemination Research Laboratory started at Shillong has been converted into a residential house exclusively for the use of the present Director of Veterinary while he visits Shillong ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that a good amount of money has been spent in purchasing the furniture, dinner and the sets and other house-hold articles ?
- (c) Whether the Scheme for which the artificial Insemination Research Laboratory was built, has been dropped for ever ?
- (d) If so, why this has been converted into a residential house ?
- (e) If not, why this had been converted into a residential house ?

*248. (a) Whether 700 chickens were lately received by the Veterinary Department for purpose of rearing from the Government of India ?

(b) How many of these chickens since died and for what reasons ?

(c) The amount of money spent on rearing, etc., of these chickens ?

*249. (a) How many incubators have been received by the Veterinary Department from the Government of India ?

(b) Whether these machines have been lying idle for a long time ?

(c) What is the total egg capacity of each of the incubators ?

(d) How many chickens have been produced so far with the help of these incubators and how many died out of these stock ?

(e) What is the reason of mortality ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

247. (a)—It is being temporarily used as a shelter for the use of the Officers of the Veterinary Department who happen to come to Shillong on duty as they are put to great hardship due to non-availability of accommodation in the Circuit House and Inspection Bungalow. The building was lying un-utilised due to shifting of the artificial Insemination Centre to Umsning in May, 1958.

(b)—Yes, a certain amount has had to be spent in purchasing furniture and crockeries for the convenience of the visiting Officers.

(c) & (d)—The Scheme for artificial Insemination was initiated during the First Five-Year Plan. Subsequently the I. C. A. R. introduced a new Scheme called cross breeding scheme for hilly and heavy rainfall areas. The Scheme has been being operated in Assam since 1955 with Headquarters at Shillong. Artificial Insemination work is being done under this Scheme as well. In order to remove duplication of work and in order to render more effective services to the people the Shillong A. I. Centre was removed to Umsning in May, 1958 where this is working satisfactorily.

(e)—The position has been explained above.

248. (a)—About 3,000 one-day old chicks have been brought for rearing from the State Delhi Farm and Patna.

(b)—About 200 chicken died during transport and other incidental cause.

(c)—About Rs.33,000 upto the last week of March, 1959.

249. (a)—Nineteen incubators operated by electricity.

(b)—These incubators are kept at the Headquarters pending the electrification of the indenting Centre.

(c)—Each incubator has the capacity for 400 eggs.

(d)—About 300 eggs incubated using only one incubator and 253 chickens came out.

(e)—Thirteen chickens died due to incidence.

Regarding a drain dug by the Municipal Authority of Nalbari

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*250. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Municipal authority of Nalbari recently dug a new drain just from the joining point of P. N. Chaudhury Road and North Trunk Road on the Southern side of the North Trunk Road and the portion of the abovementioned drain just in front of holding No.304 was comparatively made deeper with the result that the portion was filled up with impure drain water sewage and filthy rubbish?

(b) Whether it is a fact that complaints was lodged with the Deputy Commissioner against the action of the Municipality?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup later visited the place and passed an order to close the portion of the drain ?
- (d) If so, whether the portion of drain in question has been closed by the Municipal authority ?
- (e) If not, what steps Government propose to take against the said Municipal authority ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

250. (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e)—Information have been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup.

Regarding improvement and construction of Jaha Pashim Khatar-Kalakuchi Road in Bahjani Mauza

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*251. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that one Mahammad Ismail Ali and other of village Pashim Khatar Kalakuchi of Mauza Bahjani and Nalbari police station in the district of Kamrup, made a complaint through the Deputy Commissioner and Development Officer, Nalbari, that an amount of about Rs.1,200 was sanctioned for improvement and construction of Jaha Pashim Khatar Kalakuchi Road in Mauza Bahjani, in the year 1957 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that without spending a single Naya Paisa from the allotted grant for improvement and development of the said road, the Secretary and the President of the Bahjani Rural Panchayat produced a statement of expenditure and drew the amount ?
- (c) If so, who certified the completion of work before drawal of the said amount ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to make an enquiry about the matter and take necessary steps ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Rural Development Department) replied :

251. (a) to (d)—Information has been called for.

Amounts sanctioned by Rural Development in each of the Subdivisions during 1958-59

Sbri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

*252. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Rural Development in each of the Subdivisions sanctioned Self-Help grants for people's enterprises?
- (b) Whether this year such grants were sanctioned and if so, what was the amount sanctioned and if not, why not?
- (c) Whether Government propose to sanction such grants?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Rural Development Department) replied:

252. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. The following amounts have been allotted during the year 1958-59—

			Rs.	
1. Silchar Subdivision...	...	...	12,200	
2. Karimganj Subdivision	...	...	10,000	
3. Hailakandi Subdivision	...	...	5,500	
4. Dhubri Subdivision	...	...	20,600	
5. Kokrajhar Subdivision	...	...	10,000	
6. Goalpara Subdivision	...	...	26,200	including Nal-
7. Gauhati Subdivision	...	...		bari area.
8. Barpeta Subdivision	...	...	14,400	
9. Tezpur Subdivision	...	...	12,400	
10. Mangaldai Subdivision	...	...	11,000	
11. Nowgong Subdivision	...	...	23,900	
12. Golaghat Subdivision	...	...	7,400	
13. Jorhat Subdivision	...	...	10,000	
14. Sibsagar Subdivision	...	...	12,000	
15. Dibrugarh Subdivision	...	...	17,400	
16. North Lakhimpur Subdivision	...	...	7,000	
17. Lungleh Subdivision	...	...	3,827	
18. Aijal Subdivision	...	...	8,307	
19. Shillong Subdivision	...	...	18,409	
20. Jowai Subdivision	...	...	5,323	
21. Garo Hills Subdivision	...	...	11,866	
22. North Cachar Hills Subdivision	...	...	8,934	
23. Mikir Hills Subdivision	...	...	8,934	

(c)—Does not arise.

Expenditure incurred for construction of Rural Panchayat office buildings throughout the State

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*253. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the total member of Rural Panchayat Office buildings throughout the State ?
- (b) What is the total expenditure incurred for construction of those buildings ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Rural Development Department) replied:

253. (a)—108 (one hundred and eight).

(b)—Rs.8,54,785.18 nP.

Encroachment of land in Tribal Block at Chilabandha in Mangaldai Subdivision

Shri PAKHI RAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

*254. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is a Tribal Block by the name of Chilabandha in Samabari Mouza of Mangaldai Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that some of the Muslim immigrants encroached land there and they were subsequently evicted ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the land has again been encroached ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Tribal people have submitted a petition on 2nd February 1959 to the Revenue Minister informing the matter ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the Revenue Minister has passed an order on the petition for eviction of the encroachers ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that encroachers have been evicted sometime in January 1959 ?
- (g) If so, whether the land in question has been allotted to the Tribal people ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

254.(a)—Yes, but the name of the block is Kacharipara Tribal Block of which Chilabandha is a part.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—No.

(g)—No, the land has not yet been allotted to anybody.

Land dispute and consequent rioting and murder, etc.

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked:

*255. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that most of the riotings and murders occurring in temporarily settled areas are due to land disputes created by Revenue Officers ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the Government is losing a heavy amount of Revenue thereby ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that large sums of money are realised from Sarkari land as "Touzi" revenue and the land in map is shown as Sarkari which invites land-hungry people there and creating all such troubles ?

(d) Whether to put an end to all these Government proposes to settle all the occupied Sarkari lands immediately ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

255. (a)—Government have no such information.

(b)—No. Government are not losing any amount of revenue due to rioting.

(c)—The amount realised as Touzi Bahir revenue is not small. When an area is not settled or reserved, the area is shown in records as Sarkari. Government see no reason why the land-hungry people would come and create trouble over such land.

(d)—Government have already directed the local officers to offer settlements of Sarkari lands to the occupants who are found landless and deserving.

Regarding the management of Shillong Municipality

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked:

*256. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Shillong Municipality has been superseded and an Executive Officer was appointed to manage the affairs of the Municipality?
- (b) Whether the Executive Officer has the power to revise, amend, alter and cancel the decisions of the Municipal Authority taken prior to the supersession and if so, under what rules?
- (c) What is the outstanding Municipal tax of that Municipality upto 31st March 1959?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the water pipe connections of the holdings of many residents have been turned off under the order of the Executive Officer for failure to clear the outstanding Municipal tax?
- (e) If so, what is the number of such cases since the supersession of the Municipality and what is the outstanding tax in each case till 31st March 1959?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the order of the Executive Officer disconnecting the water pipes is arbitrary and against the provision of law? If not, under what law he can exercise this power?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the Executive Officer has revised and raised the Municipal tax in many cases?
- (h) If so, what is the number of such cases and what was the basis for such revision and raising?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that the Municipal tax involving a huge sum of money has not been realised from Government Departments, trading and commercial concerns, big dignitaries and influential public?
- (j) If so, why and what is the amount involved?
- (k) Why still there is the scarcity of water-supply in Shillong and what steps the Government have to take to improve the situation?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

256. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. Under Clause 23 of the Assam General Clauses Act, 1915 as all the powers and duties which under the Assam Municipal Act, 1956 (Act XV of 1957) was exercised and performed by the Shillong Municipal Board whether at a meeting or otherwise have been vested to the Executive Officer under clause (b) of sub-section (1) of Section 299 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1956.

(c)—About Rs. 2 lakhs.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—39 cases. The list showing the outstanding taxes is placed on the Library table.

(f)—No. Under Section 290 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1956.

(g)—Only in some cases where the holdings have been improved.

(h)—128 cases where the holdings have been improved thereby increasing the annual value of holdings on the basis of which Municipal taxes are imposed, *vide* Section 68 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1956.

(i) & (j)—The amount outstanding is about Rs.65,000 for Government Departments and about Rs.1,35,000 for general rate-payers.

The Board failed to take sufficient action for the realisation of the arrear taxes and this was one of the reasons for superseding the Shillong Municipal Board.

(k)—Scarcity of water-supply in Shillong was due to less rainfall in the past year and increase of population. The Government have prepared a scheme for improvement of water-supply and the Public Health Engineering Department had already started the work.

Settlement of Land in Pubsamaria and Paschim Samaria in Chaygaon Circle

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

*257. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he is aware of a public complaint lodged lately by some people of Pubsamaria headed by one Sonauilla before the Deputy Commissioner,

Kamrup and illegalities and cases of corruption in the matter of settlement of land in Pubsa-samaria and Paschim Samaria in Chaygaon Circle ?

- (b) Whether any enquiry has been conducted regarding these serious allegations and if so, who is conductor of this enquiry ?
- (c) What is the result of the enquiry ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware of received report to the effect that one Mayen Khan or Hatem Ali and one Danesh Dewani are taking money from the people with a promise to get settlement of land for them from the Sub-Deputy Collector ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the said Hatem Ali Choudhury or Goremai has property in Pakistan and is also being given land by the Government there ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

257. (a)—Yes, public complaints in the matter of settlement of land in village Koloshirkash of Bongaon Mouza and in village Champupara Pathar and Champuparagaon of Pub-Chamaria Mouza were received by the District authorities.

(b)—Yes. The enquiry into the allegations, as stated above, was made by the Settlement Officer, Kamrup and his Assistant Settlement Officers and they are holding further investigation into the cases.

(c)—The enquiry is still in progress.

(d)—Government have no such information.

(e)—Government have no information if Shri Hatem Ali Choudhury has property in Pakistan. The allotment of land in this village is not yet finalised.

Regarding the Travelling Allowance and tour of the Director of Cottage Industries

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*258. Will the Minister in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) How many days the present Director of Cottage Industries was on tour since he joined service in Assam ?
- (b) How much Travelling Allowance has been drawn by him since he joined service in Assam ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that he tours frequently only to sign papers ?
- (d) If so, what is the reason ?
- (e) How many petitions for grant of loan for purpose of Cottage or Small Scale Industries are pending with the Department ?

Shri LARSING KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Cottage Industries) replied :

258. (a)—50 (fifty) days upto March, 1959.

(b)—Rs. 5,243 upto March, 1959.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—57. These are mostly pending for want of reports from District Officers.

Representation from the flood-affected people of Loruwa Mauza for construction of a bund on the bank of Brahmaputra

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes.)] asked :

*259. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the flood and erosion-affected people of Loruwa Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision have submitted many representations for construction of a bund on the bank of Brahmaputra flood ?

(b) If so, what action has been taken by Government on these petitioners ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister] Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) replied :

259. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A Flood Embankment Scheme from Dibrugarh to Dehingmukh as included in the original Second Five-Year Plan for the flood control works was drawn up at an estimated

cost of Rs. 10.52 lakhs and notified in the *Assam Gazette* as required under provision of Assam Embankment and Drainage Act, 1953. But due to successive reduction in the plan ceiling for Central loan assistance for flood control works, the original plan had to be revised omitting many schemes including this scheme on the basis of relative priority. Under the circumstances there is no scope for implementation of this scheme during the Second Five-Year Plan period.

Regarding the disposal of Seeds and manure by Agricultural Demonstrators in Tezpur Subdivision

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*260. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the stock of seeds and manure which are not sold due to various reasons are taken back by Government from the Demonstrators ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Agriculture Demonstrators of Tezpur Subdivision are to pay for the seeds and manures which could not be sold by them from their own pockets ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied:

260. (a)—There is no question of taking back, Seeds and Manures are given to the Demonstrators according to their requisition but in case an Agricultural Demonstrators cannot dispose of the whole stock and intimates the fact in time, the balance quantity is diverted to another circle where there is demand.

(b)—This question only arises if the Agricultural Demonstrators is responsible for any loss to Government due to his negligence in not being able to sell the quantity of seeds indented for, or taking timely action as indicated under (a). Unless specific information of the case or cases is given, no categorical reply is possible.

Representations from the Public of Bihpuria Mouza for the extension of bund from Sonapur to Dahghoria village

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Schedule Tribes,)] asked:

*261. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Public of Dhuma-guri, Bahgurah, Laholial, are in Bihpuria Mouza, North Lakhimpur, have submitted several representations to the authority concerned for extension of public bund from Sonapur to Dahghoria village?

(b) If so, what action has been taken by the authority concerned to avoid the Cubansiri Flood?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control, etc.) replied:

261. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Due to limitation of funds no scheme to deal with this problem can be taken up at present.

Scheme for construction of quarters for 4th Grade Government employees

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

*262. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state whether Government propose to provide lands to the 4th Grade Government servants to construct their house thereon?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

262. Government received a representation from the members of the All-Assam Process Servers' Association praying for providing them with Government lands free of premium for construction of their residential houses. In response to this representation, a direction was issued to all the District Officers of the Plains Districts to give due consideration to the petitions from the members of this Association praying for land for the purpose. Again, considering the hardship experienced by the 4th Grade Government employees (office peons) for residential accommodation, Government in the General Administrative

Department have undertaken a Scheme for construction of quarters to accommodate the 4th grade Government employees in Shillong, for which steps have been taken for acquisition of land.

Realisation of Taxes from the rate-payers of Nalbari

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*263. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Municipal Authority of Nalbari have not realised a huge amount of taxes from the rate-payers ?
- (b) Whether it is also a fact that some of the Commissioners of the Municipality have not paid their taxes properly and regularly ?
- (c) If so, whether Government propose to take necessary action upon the Municipal Authority of Nalbari.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied :

263. (a), (b) & (c)—Information have been called for from the Chairman, Municipal Board, Nalbari.

Outstanding dues of Central Store and Emporium, Gauhati

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRADEV SARMAH (Digboi) asked :

*264. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) The total amount of dues outstanding on 31st January 1959 in the Central Stores and Emporium, Gauhati ?
- (b) What was the total amount of dues outstanding till 31st January, 1958 and the amount realised against it by 28th February, 1959 ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries) replied:

264. (a)—Rupees 4,64,511·79 nP.

(b)—Rupees 3,33,242·75 nP. The amount realised against this amount by 28th February 1959 is, Rs.147,096·45 nP.

Regarding the meeting of the Advisory Board of Kaziranga Wild Life Sanctuary

Shri NARENDA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked:

*265. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forest be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is any Advisory Board for Kaziranga Wild Life Sanctuary?
- (b) Whether the said Board is in existence and how many times the said Board had met during 1956 to 1959?
- (c) Whether the Forest authorities are aware of the need of maintaining good relations with neighbouring people of the Game Sanctuary?
- (d) What steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied :

265. (a)—There are three such Board, namely—

1. Local Tourist Advisory Committee.
2. State Tourist Advisory Committee.
3. State Wild Life Board.

(b) —Yes. The Local Tourist Advisory Committee for Kaziranga met once on 29th November 1956 and the State Wild Life Board met once on 27th August 1958.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—During the Wild Life Week celebrations annual meetings with film shows are arranged wherever possible in the areas near the Sanctuary explaining the objects and the need for Wild Life Preservation addressed by distinguished persons. The neighbouring villagers are allowed to graze their cattle in the Sanctuary under Rules and conditions laid down by the Departments. They are also specially attended to by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and inoculations against infectious diseases are given free which is appreciated by the owners of these cattle. When wild animals cause damage special measures

are taken to drive away the marauders. If and when any Rhino strays away and is a source of danger then it is driven back to the Sanctuary. For dealing with dangerous Wild Animals other than Rhino provision is already there under Elephant Control License or ordinary Gun License and if situation demands they are dealt with accordingly. Further the advantages of additional income to the local population by the money spent by the tourists in the locality are also explained to them. On demand attempts are made to put up cultural shows utilising local talent of both tribal and non-tribal people. Departmental construction work also offers opportunities for employment during spare time.

Stipends to the students of the Labour Community in Assam

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*266. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government has lately received petitions for stipend from students of the labour community in Assam for higher studies ?
- (b) If so, what is the number of such petitions received till 1st January 1959 and how many such stipends were given till that date ?
- (c) The names of the students who have been awarded such stipends ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

266. (a) to (c)—Informations are being collected.

Present strength of the Post-Graduate Basic College

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

*267. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) The minimum qualifications of the teachers of Post-Graduate Basic College ?
- (b) The number of qualified teachers in Post-Graduate Basic College ?
- (c) What is the qualification required to seek admission into the said College ?
- (d) What is the present strength of this College ?
- (e) What is the amount spent per month in this College during the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?

- (f) How many teachers were trained up so far ?
 (g) Whether inspection has been made in the teachings of the Basic Training teachers by the authorities who are serving at present ?
 (h) Whether the Sub-Inspector who inspect the Basic Schools are trained up in Basic Schools ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education)

replied :

267. (a)—The minimum qualification required for—
 (i) Principal—Master's degree in education of Master's degree with B. T. having at least five years experience in Basic Education.
 (ii) Lecturers—Master's degree in Education of Master's degree with B. T. or with diploma in Crafts or in such subject for which they are to be appointed.
 (iii) Instructors Matriculate with Diploma or certificate in the Trade or Craft concerned.
 (b)—Principal—one.
 Lecturers—Four.
 (c)—The qualification required for getting admission into the College is generally a degree but Under-Graduates having teaching experience in Basic Schools are also admitted.
 (d)—As suggested at (b) above.
 (e)—Amounts spent per month—

	Rs.
1957-58	2,098
1958-59	2,500

 (f)—Thirty. Nineteen are under training.
 (g)—Yes.
 (h)—The Sub-Inspector of School are being trained in batches. Some Sub-Inspector of Schools has been trained already.

Object of formation of Assam Homeopathic Board

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

*268. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the object of formation of Assam Homeopathic Board ?
 (b) Whether it is a fact that the Board is composed of more non-Homeopath than with Homeo practitioners ?

- (c) Whether Government are aware of the public feeling that the object of the Board will not be fulfilled and interest of the Homeopaths will suffer thereby ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to reconstitute the Board with suitable Homeopaths and required number of Department people ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

268. (a) To take due measures for the development of the Homeopathic System of Medicine and its control by the State Government under the Assam Homeopathic Medicine Act, 1955 and rules made thereunder.

(b)—Yes.

(The Board is constituted in accordance with the provision of the Assam Homeopathic Medicine Act, 1955).

(c)—Government have no information.

(d)—Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Flood-affected Lower Primary, Middle English and High Schools of the State

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*269. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction called for a list of flood-damaged Schools from the Members of this Assembly pertaining to their respective Constituency ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that several M. L. As. of Assam submitted list of flood-affected Lower Primary, Middle English and some High Schools in accordance with that request ?

(c) What happened to those recommendations ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

269. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The matter is under consideration of Government

Site of the Gurdon High English School, Nalbari

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*270. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that the present site of the Gurdon High English School at Nalbari, in the District of Kamrup, is situated in a congested area of the town and most of the Government Office, Police Thana, Sub-Registry Office, Sub-Treasury, etc., are situated near the said School ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that for the extension of the Government Offices in future, this area will be unavoidably necessary ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that for a better and suitable atmosphere to the teachers and students the present site requires a planned change ?

(d) To achieve this whether Government propose to transfer the School building towards the South, i.e., opposite the present School hostel ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

270. (a)—It is true that many Government Offices are situated near the School.

(b)—There is no reason why the School site should be usurped by Government Offices.

(c)—Necessity of changing the site is not yet felt.

(d)—Does not arise at present.

Proposal to make Kalpani-Beel of Barpeta Subdivision into 'Khas'

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*271. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Kalpani-Beel in Goobsdhana Mauza of Barpeta Subdivision has been made Khas ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) If not, what is the reason ?

(d) Whether these are representation to that effect ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied.

271. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—It was under settlement till end of March 1959, and a proposal to make it 'Khas' is under consideration.

(d)—Yes.

Regarding relief to the erosion affected families of South Salmara

Maulavi KOBAD HUSSAIN AHMED (Mankachar) asked :

*272. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware of the terrible erosion of the Brahmaputra, that has recently rendered a large number of people of South Salmara Thana in the Subdivision of Dhubri, landless and homeless ?

(b) If so, whether Government propose to give them relief in any shape immediately ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied

272. (a) & (b)—The information is being collected from local Officers.

Regarding construction of a road by Assam Oil Company in between Moranhat and Moran

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

*273. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that in the area in between Moranhat and Moran of Khaloighogra Mauza in Sibsagar, paddy crops were damaged by accumulating water due to construction of road by Assam Oil Company ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Moran Development Committee as well as the public gave representation to the Chief Minister to compensate their loss due to not keeping proper culverts, etc. ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

273. (a) & (b)—Information is being obtained.

Regarding Officers of Co-operative Department

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati)
asked:

*274. Will the Minister, Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolutions passed in the last General Meeting of the All Assam Co-operative Officers Association held at Jorhat in December last ?
- (b) If so, whether there is any resolution regarding supersession of some senior Officers of the Co-operative Department by some *ex-cadre* Officers ?
- (d) If the replies to (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, who are those *ex-cadre* Officers ?
- (d) Which of the posts in the Co-operative Department are in the usual cadre of Co-operative Field Officers ?
- (e) Whether the posts of Deputy Registrar for Audit, Co-operative Education Officer, Special Officer for Planning and the Statistical Officer, are considered to be in the regular Co-operative Cadre ?
- (f) If so, what are their position in relation to the Deputy Co-operative Officers and the Assistant Registrars ?

*275. Will the Minister, Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (i) Whether the posts of Deputy Registrar for Audit Co-operative Education Officer, and the Statistical Officer are filled up by promotion from the rank of Deputy Co-operative Officers and Assistant Registrars ?
- (b) Whether the posts of Deputy Registrars, excepting Deputy Registrars, Audit and Assistant Registrars are always filled up by promotion from the Field Officers ?
- (c) Whether field experience is considered necessary for the posts of Deputy Registrars and Assistant Registrars and also whether these Officers are required to pass the Departmental Examination and to have training in the Co-operative Training College in Poona ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that Shri K. C. Bordoloi was appointed as Chief Auditor of Co-operative Societies and was exempted from passing the Departmental Examination only because his work was to be confined only to audit for which he possessed the requisite qualification being a Chartered Accountant ?
 - (e) If so, when the post of Chief Auditor was converted to that of Deputy Registrar for Audit and whether he was required to pass the Departmental Examination and to undergo the course of Co-operative Training ?
 - (f) If not, why not ?
 - (g) When Shri K. C. Bordoloi was specially recruited to be in charge of the audit of Co-operative Societies and why after conversion of the post of Chief Auditor to Deputy Registrar for Audit he is not being kept in charge of Audit ?
- *276. Will the Minister, Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Assam Public Service Commission refused to approve appointment of Shri K. N. Bhuyan as Assistant Registrar for Planning of the Co-operative Department and he is being retained by the Department as Special Officer for Planning ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Shri Bhuyan is not in the Cadre of Assistant Registrar ?
- (c) If so, how his seniority has been fixed over other senior Assistant Registrars ?
- (d) Whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House Government order No.RDC. 74/57/9 fixing the seniority of Shri K. N. Bhuyan over two other officers together with a statement showing the age, educational qualification, date of appointment, date of confirmation, date of promotion as Assistant Registrar and other special qualifications of Shri Bhuyan and the two officers who have been immediately affected ?
- (e) Whether Government have received any representation from the Officers affected against this order ?
- (f) What action has been taken on these representations ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation)
replied :

274. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—There are no such officers in the Co-operative Department who may be classed as *ex-cadre* Officers. All the existing posts in the Co-operative Department are in the usual cadre of Co-operative Department.

(d)—There is no separate cadre of Co-operative Field Officers.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Relative position of Officers are as follows:—

Registrar.

Joint Registrar.

Deputy Registrar.

Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Education Officer.

Statistical Officer.

Deputy Co-operative Officer.

Assistant Co-operative Officer.

275. (a)—No.

(b)—These posts are normally filled up by promotion but in the past some of the posts were filled up by direct recruitment through Assam Public Service Commission.

(c)—Not only field experiences but also administrative experience, efficiency, records of service, date of confirmation, etc., are taken into consideration for promotion. Officers are required to pass Departmental Examinations but Government may make exemption in special cases. Training is essential, but it is not a pre-requisite for promotion. In fact only Assistant Registrars and Officers superior to Assistant Registrars are trained in Poona. In the past the post of Assistant Registrar was held by Officers of the Assam Civil Service.

(d), (e) & (f)—Shri Bordoloi was appointed as Chief Auditor and was also exempted from Departmental Examination but not for the reason that his work would be confined to audit only. He has not undergone training. The post of Chief Auditor was converted to that of Deputy Registrar on 27th September, 1955.

(g)—Services of Shri Bordoloi are now being utilised best in organising the Assam Warehousing Corporation in the interest of the Co-operative Department.

276. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—A copy of the order and other particulars are placed on the Library Table (Please see Library Register No.S.102).

(e)—Yes.

(f)—These are under examination.

Relief to Political Sufferers of Tihu Circle

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*277. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many persons are Political Sufferers in Tihu Circle ?

(b) How many persons were convicted there in connection with the Indian Independence Movement since 1942 ?

(c) Who are those sufferers and the convicted persons as mentioned above ?

(d) Whether any grants-in-aid or pension have been given to them ?

(e) If so, what is the amount given to such individual ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Political Sufferers) replied :

227. (a)—The information is being collected.

(b)—15 persons.

(c)—The information regarding sufferers is being collected. Regarding convicted persons a list with names and particulars is laid down on the Library Table (Please see Library Register No.S.103).

(d) & (e)—Shri Satya Nath Deka and Shri Ganesh Narayan Choudhury convicted persons were granted a lump sum of Rs.500 and a monthly pension of Rs.30 respectively as relief to Political Sufferers.

Principle followed in allotting works to the Bharat Sevak Samaj on the Fakirganj-South Salmara Road cum Embankment

Maulavi JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked :

*278. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Flood Control) be pleased to state—

(a) The principle followed in allotting works to the Bharat Sevak Samaj on the Fakirganj-South Salmara Road cum Embankment ?

(b) The names of the persons who constitute the said Bharat Sevak Samaj who have been allotted the said Embankment cum Road work ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that one of the principle of allotment of contract work to Bharat Sevak Samaj is to lessen the cost of the work ?

- (d) Whether Government will be pleased to state at what rate the said work was given to the Bharat Sevak Samaj ?
- (e) Whether there any notice of tender was issued ?
- (f) If so, what was the lowest rate from the public or contractors ?
- (g) Whether Government will be pleased to state the names of the group leaders of the said Bharat Savak Samaj ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that some of the group leaders of the said Bharat Sevak Samaj gave power of attorney for the said work on 16th January 1959 and 4th February 1959 to one Bhudarmal Khetwat of Dhubri Town ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, Public Works Department (Flood Control)] replied :

278. (a)—The works are allotted according to the Government decision to give relief to flood affected people of the region as incorporated in the Assam Financial Rules Nos.254 and 317 (correction slip No.165). The flood affected people of the area in this case were organised for the work into different groups by the Dhubri Branch of the Bharat Sevak Samaj.

(b) & (g)—The names of all persons constituting the Bharat Sevak Samaj are not known. The works were allotted to individual group leaders managing the work of a group of flood affected people, and not to the Bharat Sevak Samaj. A list of the names of such group leaders is laid on the table of the Library of the Assembly for members' information (Please see Library Register No.S.103).

(c)—No. The principle of allotting works to flood affected people at scheduled or estimated rate adopted by Government is evidently based on the intention to give the maximum relief to these people through such work.

(d) & (f)—The entire work was split up into 27 groups while calling for tenders. The lowest competitive rates per thousand cubic foot of earthwork received for the different groups are as follows :—

Group No.							Rate
							Rs. nP.
1	...	...	...	...	..	...	75.00
2	...	...	...	...	...	...	75.00
3	...	...	...	...	...	...	35.00
4	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.00
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.44
6	...	...	..	..	...	...	21.00
7	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.44
8	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.44

Group No.

Rate

Rs. nF.

9	..	...	...	...	...	..	22.44
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	24.00
11	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.00
12	...	...	...	...	...	...	24.00
13	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.00
14	...	...	...	...	...	...	23.00
15	...	...	...	...	..	...	22.00
16	...	...	...	...	...	...	21.75
17	...	...	...	...	...	...	21.00
18	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.75
19	...	...	...	..	...	...	23.00
20	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.25
21	...	...	...	...	...	...	21.75
22	...	...	...	..	...	..	22.50
23	...	...	...	..	..	...	22.00
24	...	..	...	..	...	...	21.75
25	...	...	...	...	...	...	67.25
26	...	..	...	...	...	..	67.25
27	..	...	...	...	..	...	67.25

work on group 1 to 24 and group 27 was allotted to the flood affected people at the estimated rate of Rs.25 per thousand cubic foot. Work on groups 25 and 26 which was of a difficult nature was allotted to tenderers on competitive basis.

(e)—Yes.

(h)—Yes. Six group leaders have given such power of authority.

Prescribed diet for the indoor patients of the hospitals run by the State Government

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) replied :

*279. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) What is the prescribed diet for the indoor patients of the hospitals run by the State Government in different places of the State (the details diet list for the whole day is required) ?

(b) Whether any amount has been fixed per meal and per day ?

(c) If so, what are those amounts ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

279. (a)—A statement showing the prescribed scale of diets for the indoor patients of the State hospital is placed on the Library Table (Please see Library Register No.S.104).

(b) & (c)—Re.1.12 N.P. is the fixed rate per patient per diem.

Prescribed diets for the indoor patient of Assam Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

*280. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) What is the prescribed diets for the indoor patients of Assam Medical College Hospital at Dibrugarh ?

(b) The amounts, if any, fixed for a meal and for a day per patient ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

280. (a)—The statement showing the prescribed scale of diet for the indoor patients of the Assam Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh is placed on the Library Table (Please see Library Register No.S.105).

(b)—Re.1.12 N.P. is the fixed rate per patient per diem.

Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1956

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati)

asked :

*281. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether under Government Order No.RRG.28/58, dated the 27th August 1958, public sale of the Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1956, was stopped ?

(b) Whether at the time of issuing that order, it was known that the Government had asked the land-owners to submit returns about their lands under the provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder within October 1958 ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that being unable to procure the Act, the land owners faced great difficulties in filling up and submitting the sale of the said returns ?

(d) Whether Government order prohibiting the sale of the said Act was meant to include also the committees of the Assam Legislative Assembly ?

- (e) Whether Government are aware that Government Book Depot, Assam, Shillong, refused to sell or supply a copy of the Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1956 on 12th November 1958 when a chairman of an Assembly Committee wrote to the Book Depot that he had urgently required it for study and comparison in connection with the work of a committee of the Legislature ?

Shri Hareswar Das (Minister, Revenue) replied :

281. (a)—Under Government orders quoted in the question, sale of the consolidated copy of the Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1956, incorporating subsequent Amendment Act was stopped as in the consolidated printed edition certain mistakes crept in.

(b)—The time for submission of the return was upto 15th August 1958. On representation of people the time was extended upto 31st October 1958 and further upto 15th November, 1958.

(c)—Representations from a large number of people and associations were for extension of the time for submission of the return. Government have no information that difficulties were experienced for non-availability, of the Act. Forms of return were available in the offices of the Deputy Commissioner and Subdivisional Officers. The Acts were also available, only the consolidated edition withdrawn from sale.

(d) & (e)—Circumstances under which the consolidated edition of the Act could not be sold to any one has been explained against (a) above.

Regarding Repairing the abandoned bund of the Dehing River at Panidehing Mouza

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*282. Will the Minister-in-charge of Flood Control be pleased to state—

- (a) If it is a fact that Rs.4,000, Rs.5,000 and Rs.10,000 were sanctioned in the last year for construction of the abandoned Bund of Dehing river at Panidehing Mouza, Bajamai to Dimao Bund Road and raising the bank of Demow river in Thowra Mouza respectively ?

- (b) Whether Government is aware that all the 3 projects were completed ?

- (c) Whether Government are aware that due to construction of breached portion of the abandoned Bund, a good number of cultivators could grow Sali crop and thereby they were benefited and also due to raising of Rajmai Dimou-bund road, the growers could save their seedling and grow their Sali crops safely ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Flood Control) replied :

282. (a)—Rs.4,000, Rs.5,000 and Rs.10,000 were sanctioned last year on Test Relief basis by the Revenue Department for repairing the abandoned bund of the Dehing river at Panidehing Mouza raising the Road from Rajmai to Demau Bund, and construction of a ring bund from Dhali-Ali Somarjan to Dimoumukh respectively.

(b)—The first two projects have been completed, and the third one, *i.e.*, construction of the Ring Bund is in progress.

(c)—Some benefits have been derived by the people from these works.

Cattle epidemic in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

*283. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that cattle epidemic is breaking out recently in Mahmora and Khaloighura Mauza of Sibsagar Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that during the months of February and March 1959, the cattle belonging to several persons of Sibsagar Subdivision died of cattle epidemic, though the cattle were vaccinated a few months before ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the epidemic is spreading and still taking away the lives of cattle population ?
- (d) What steps Government have taken to control the epidemic ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied :

283. (a), (b) & (c)—Information is being collected.

(d)—Government is carrying vaccination on a mass scale throughout the State. A special scheme called the Rinderpest Eradication Scheme is being operated since 1957, with a staff consisting of one Rinderpest Eradication Officer, 4 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 8 Supervisor Field Assistants, 60 Veterinary Field Assistants and one vaccine carrier and other staff.

The staff are working exclusively for the control of the epidemic. Other staff of this Department are also carrying on control work. The virulence of the disease has been successfully brought under control.

Uptill the end of February 1959 commencing from 1957, 42,56,068 cattle have been vaccinated. In Sibsagar Subdivision 8,24,442 cattle were vaccinated upto the middle of December 1958.

A Committee has already been constituted in pursuance of a resolution passed by this House in its last session with Shri Satischandra Das Gupta of Sodepur, West Bengal, as its Chairman to enquire into the cases of heavy cattle mortality and to suggest remedial measures.

Suspension of work of Barak Bridge at Silchar

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

*284. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. & B.) be pleased to State—

(a) When the construction of Barak bridge at Silchar was started ?

(b) What is the progress of the work ?

(c) What was the specified time given to the contractor to complete the bridge ?

(d) For what reasons the work now been suspended ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied :

284. (a)—The construction of the bridge started on 11th April 1956.

(b)—The shore spans have practically been completed. The well foundations have also been completed.

(c)—The specified time given for completion of the bridge was 30th April 1958.

(d)—The work has been suspended due to non-receipt of additional amount of foreign exchange amounting to Rs.4 lakhs.

Construction of Treasury Staff quarters at Nalbari

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

*285. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) When the estimates for construction of Treasury staff-quarters at Nalbari was proposed ?

(b) When contractors for construction of Treasury staff-quarters at Nalbari were appointed ?

(c) When acquisition of land for the purpose was started and when final notice of acquisition was published ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that inspite of provision of funds for the purpose the matter is hanging in between P.W.D. Office and Land Acquisition Office ?
- (e) Why no effective measures, have been taken so far for construction of Treasury staff quarters at Nalbari ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that payment to contractor of the main building of the Treasury has been held up ?
- (g) Whether there is any allegation regarding use of timber other than contracted items in the said Treasury Building ?
- (h) Who is responsible for this sort of affair there ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister Public Works Department (Roads and buildings)] replied:

285. (a)—The proposal was first initiated in the early part of the year 1956.

(b)—In March and may 1957.

(c) In July 1958 and draft declaration for acquisition of land was published on 13th August 1958, vide Revenue Department's No. RLA.106/58/8, dated 13th August 1958.

(d) & (e)—The land has been handed over in March 1959, to the Department and the works will be started very soon.

(f), (g) & (h)—Yes, there are some allegations against the contractor regarding the use of non-bonsum timbers in the building which are under investigation.

Proposal to make Rural Development Department a permanent one

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA (Sonai) asked:

*286. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Rural Development Department was recommended to be made permanent by the last Pay Committee which was accepted as such by the Government but the Department has not been made permanent as yet ?
- (b) Whether Government contemplate to make any Department permanent other than the Rural Development Department ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Rural Development Department acquired many years of experience in Panchayat Administration ?
- (d) If so, whether Government propose to retain the Rural Development Department permanently ?
- (e) If not, why ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)
replied :

286. (a)—The Pay Committee, did not specifically recommend that the Rural Development Department should be made permanent. Its recommendation was that all posts in all Departments of Government, which had continued to exist or function for a continuous period of five years or more, should be declared as permanent except those posts which were created specifically against experimental schemes or for the purpose of handling any work of purely temporary or sporadic character. The recommendation was accepted by the Government.

(b)—The intention is to make permanent all posts which satisfy the above conditions.

(c)—The Rural Development Department came into being in 1947. So there is no doubt that the Department has acquired experience in Panchayat Administration.

(d)—Government desire that the Rural Development Department should be made permanent but the final decision will depend on the ultimate set up of the Panchayat Administration under democratic decentralisation. It is felt that integrated pattern of administrative set up will have to be evolved for co-ordinating the activities of Rural Development, Community Development and Panchayat. This will be possible only after the Assam Panchayats Bill, 1958, now before the House becomes law.

(e)—Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.

Liquidation of defunct Co-operative Societies in Assam

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*287. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

(a) How many defunct Co-operative Societies are there in Assam ?

(b) How many such Societies are there in Barpeta Sub-division ?

(c) Whether they will be liquidated ?

(d) If so, when ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation)
replied :

287. (a)—800.

(b)—57.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—After receipt of the report of inspection under Section 61 or enquiry under Section 60 of the Assam Co-operative Societies Act, 1949 (Act I of 1950) from the Field Officers which have been called for. If the Societies are recommended

for dissolution a preliminary notice is to be served on the Society giving it 30 days time to file any objection if any or if they wish to revive its activities. When no such objection is received, or when such objections are not found valid the Society will be sent into liquidation.

Total strength of the staff of Co-operative Department in Assam

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

*288. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

(a) How many Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Deputy Registrars are there in the Co-operative Department?

(b) How many Deputy Co-operative Officer and Assistant Co-operative Officers are there in that Department?

(c) What is the total strength of staff of the Co-operative Department in Assam?

(d) It is a fact that many of the name not to be found at their Headquarters?

(e) Is this Department under staffed or over staffed?

Shri BISWASDEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied:

288. (a)—Registrar—1

Deputy Registrars—5

Assistant Registrars—18.

(b)—Deputy Co-operative Officers—153.

Assistant Co-operative Officers—257 against total strength of 352.

(c)—Total strength of staff—1,379.

(d)—This question is unintelligible.

(e)—This Department is under staffed.

Number of bags of cement utilize during 1957-58 by the Department

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*289. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. & B. Wing) be pleased to state—

(a) How many bags of cement were purchased since 31st March 1957 to 30th October 1958 by the Department for utilization in Roads, Building, culverts, etc.?

(b) How many bags of cement so purchased were actually utilized during the said period?

(c) What is the actual balance that remained unutilized?

- (d) Whether Government is aware that a large quantity of cement mounting to several thousand of bags were spoiled for non-utilization in proper time ?
- (e) If the reply to the question (d) above is in the negative whether Government will be pleased to enquire into the matter ?
- (f) If the reply to question (d) above is in the affirmative how many bags are so damaged, and what is the total loss so sustained ?
- (g) Why these were not sold to needy public ?
- (h) Whether it is also a fact that thousands of bags of cement are still lying unutilized in different stores of the P.W.D. ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that new consignment of cement is still indented for, and it is arriving from respective companies ?
- (j) If the reply to question No.(h) and (i) above are in affirmative whether Government proposed to release the surplus stock to the public to ease the situation ?

Shi GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied :

289. (a)—5,96,422 Bags.

(c)—47,726 Bags.

(d)—No, only 454 bags are reported to be caked due to natural calamities and long storage. This is due insignificance compared to the huge quantities handled. Total loss is Rs,1,054.

(e) & (f)—Reply to (d) has already been made after proper inquiry.

(g)—As these are required for the Government works in progress.

(h)—Yes.

(i)—Yes.

(j)—No, these are required for Government Works in progress.

Regarding Completion of Diara-Pepulbari Road in Dhubri Subdivision

Maulavi KOBAD HUSSAIN AHMED (Mankachar) asked :

*290 Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) When the construction of the Diara-Pepulbari Road in the Subdivision Dhubri was taken up by Government ?

- (b) What is the length of the road and what amount was sanctioned for its construction ?
 (c) Whether the road has been completed ?
 (d) If not, when its completion may be expected ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied:

290. (a)—The portion of the road from Pepulbari to Kalapani was taken up during February 1953 and the portion from Kalapani towards Diara was taken up during February 1955.

(b)—The length of the road is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles out of which 4 miles 5 furlongs have been taken up at a cost of Rs.1,25,000.

(c)—Yes, the portions taken up excepting one bridge which could not be taken up within the sanctioned amount.

(d)—The question for taking up the remaining length and the bridge will be examined and put to the Subdivisional Development Board for initial consideration when the question of drawing up of new scheme will come up.

Maintenance of Protap Chowdhury Road in Nalbari Municipality

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*291. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the portion of P. N. Chowdhury Road within the area of Nalbari Municipality was maintained by the P. W. D. since long ?

(b) Whether it is also a fact that the maintenance of the road is now left out entirely ?

(c) If so, why ?

(d) Whether Government is aware that the Municipal Authority, also has not cared to maintain it ?

(e) Whether any Department of the Government is the proper authority to maintain it ?

(f) If so, which is the Department ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied:

291. (a)—No. A portion (*i.e.*, 943 ft.) of Protap Chowdhury Road which forms a link to Nalbari-Kamarkuchi Road was taken up for improvement by P. W. D. and returned to the Municipal Board for maintenance after improvement.

(b)—The road is under the Municipal Board and it is the responsibility of the Board to look after and ensure its maintenance.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Yes, and the Municipal Board has been requested to continue maintenance of the portion of the road since handed over to them.

(e)—No, as it is a road under Municipal Board.

(f) Please refer to (b) above.

Construction of culverts and bridges on the Pengaree-Philobari Road in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMAH (Digboi)

asked :

*292. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the Pengaree-Philobari road in Dibrugarh Subdivision is lying unused for want of necessary culverts and bridges ?

(b) If so, when the culverts and bridges are going to be constructed ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D.

(R. & B.)] replied :

292. (a)—No. Though the road is not open to vehicular traffic it is used by the pedestrians.

(b)—The proposal is under consideration of the Government and works on remaining culverts and bridges will be taken up when funds are made available.

Dispute over the completion of work on Tihu-Salmara Road under North Kamrup Division

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*293. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. & B) be pleased to state—

(a) Since when the work of Tihu-Salmara Road under North Kamrup Division (within Nalbari Sub-division) began ?

(b) What is the progress of work up till now ?

(c) Whether work has been started this year ?

(d) If so, how far earth work has been done ?

(e) If the reply to (c) above is in the negative why the work has not yet been started ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D.

(R. & B.)] replied :

293. (a)—Since March 1957, on the 1st mile of the road.

(b)—90 per cent of earthworks and also bridge and culverts works except culverts slab on the 1st to 6th furlong of the 1st mile have been completed.

(c)—The work on 1st to 6th furlong of 1st mile is continuing from March 1957. No work on 7th to 8th furlong has been started due to dispute over land.

(d)—Information is given at (b) above.

(e)—Works on 7th to 8th furlong could not be started due to dispute over land.

Completion of the work of Gumi-Chaygaon Road

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

*294. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the work in the Gumi-Chaygaon Road has been completed?

(b) If not, whether any special care has been taken to complete the work?

(c) When the road was taken up?

(d) Who are the contractors entrusted with the work this year?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B.)] replied :

294. (a)—Length taken up is almost completed.

(b)—Yes, the road is expected to be fully completed early current year (1959-60).

(c)—During February 1957.

(d)—Shri Biseswar Sarmah (continued from last year).

Hallidayganj-Hazirhat Road

Maulavi KOBAD HUSSAIN AHMED (Mankachar)

asked :

*295. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) When the Hallidayganj-Hazirhat Road was taken up by Government for construction?

(b) What is the length of the road and what amount has been sanctioned for its construction?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the sanctioned amount has fallen far short of requirement and as a result the road has remained incomplete?

(d) If so, whether Government will be pleased to provide necessary amount for its completion?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B.)] replied :

295. (a)—The first 2 miles of the road was taken over by the P.W.D. in December 1956.

(b)—The total length of the road is 6 miles out of which a length of two miles has been taken over for construction excluding several bridges at an estimated cost of Rs.1,00,000.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—This will be examined and put up to the Subdivisional Development Board for initial consideration when question of preparation of new scheme comes,

**Damage done to crops, property, school building, etc.,
by wild elephants from forests in Northern part of
Kherija Bijni Mouza, Gobardhana Mouza and
Bijni Mouza**

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sarbhog) asked :

*296. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware of the frequent damage of crops, property, school building etc., caused by wild elephants from forests in northern part of Kherija Bijni Mauza, Gobardhana Mauza and Bijni Mauza ?
- (b) If not, whether Government will enquire about it?
- (c) How many acres of crops were damaged by wild elephants in each of those Mauzas during the last two years ?
- (d) What is the total loss ?
- (e) How many petitions have been submitted to the Government about taking measures for protection of lives and property against wild elephants ?
- (f) Why no measures have yet been taken up up till now ?
- (g) When action in his regard will be taken by Government ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that the forest officers are not taking keen interest to protect the people against the ravages caused by wild elephants ?
- (i) How many times the officials of the Forest Department, Assam, went to Mathanguri during the last three years, who are they and what are the dates of their visits ?
- (j) Whether Government are aware that many a times the visits of the officer at Mathanguri are not kept in record book ?

(k) If not, whether Government will inquire about?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

296. (a)—No report to this effect was received:

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Government have no information.

(d)—In view of (c) above, Government are unable to assess the loss, if any.

(e)—Since the period of which the information is required is not stated, it is not possible to give a reply.

(f) Steps to reduce the number of wild elephants causing damage have been taken by the Forest Department by capture of wild elephants this year as in previous years. Elephants control licenses are being freely issued to applicants for the same by the Deputy Commissioner concerned. On receipts of complaints Deputy Commissioners also issue notices declaring the elephants concerned for destruction.

(g)—Government will continue to take action as above.

(h)—It is not a fact. The Forest Department is doing its best by constituting mahals and recommending to the Deputy Commissioners concerned to issue elephant control licenses liberally to suitable persons.

(i)—It is not possible to give the information immediately as the Divisional Forest Officers' visits are not reported except in diaries which will require time to scrutinise. Chief Conservator of Forests however visited once, 1st Conservator of Forests thrice and 2nd Conservator of Forests once. Regarding Shri M. C. Bhattacharyya, late third Conservator of Forests, the information is not readily available.

(j)—No.

(k)—Yes.

Number of Co-operative Weaving Societies and individual weavers in Golaghat Subdivision

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMAH (Dergaon) asked :

*297. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the number of Co-operative Weaving Societies and individual weavers in Golaghat Subdivision ?
- (b) What was the amount of Government loan or non-recurring grant sanctioned to these institutions during 1957-58 ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that there are some tribal weavers specially MIRIGIM producers, in Golaghat Subdivision ?
- (d) What is the basis of granting Government help to co-operative weavers and individual weavers ?
- (e) What were the amounts surrendered by the Cottage Industries Department to Central Government during 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps for granting adequate help to these weaving societies after due enquiry ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

297. (a)—There are 23 Weaving Co-operative Societies in Golaghat Subdivision. The number of individual weavers is about 15,000.

(b)—No Government loan was issued to any of the weavers Co-operative during 1957-58 as there was no provision in the Handloom Schemes for the year for giving working capital loan to Cotton Weaving Societies. Share capital loans were not issued for want of any application from Societies. A non-recurring grant of Rs.200 was given to one weaving Co-operative (Duchutimukh) and Rs.150 to one Weaving Institute, viz., Mohendra Mohini Rajkumari Weaving School and Rs.150 to Thengalbari Weaving Institute.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—(i) Co-operative weavers are given share Capital loan at 75 per cent when the value of share is below Rs.20 and at $87\frac{1}{2}$ per cent when the value of share is Rs.20 or above. On the paid up portion of the shares contributed by a member.

(ii) The working capital loan is also given to weavers co-operative on the basis of Rs.300 per loom at the maximum.

(iii) Free looms, accessories and Jacquard machines are also supplied to weavers societies as grant and loans on the basis of working conditions of societies.

(iv) Societies also get benefit of rebate on sale of finished products at 6 N.P. per rupee when the sale is Rs.2 or above.

(v) Subsidy at Rs.20 per bale is also given to minimise the cost of transport of yarn for weaving co-operatives. As regards individual weavers and other institutions Government aids are given through Sericulture and Weaving and Cottage Industries Departments by way of loan and grants under provision from State aid to Industries.

(e)—No amount was surrendered to Central Government by the Cottage Industries Department.

(f)—Yes, as far as practicable.

Construction of Co-operative godowns in Golaghat Subdivision

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMAH (Dergaon) asked:

*298. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Department be pleased to state—

(a) How many large scale Co-operative godowns have been constructed in Golaghat Subdivision stating the location of each?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the large scale Co-operative godowns constructed by Thengalgaon and Gurjogonia Large Scale Co-operative Societies have not been completed, for want of C. I. Sheets?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that these Co-operative Societies had submitted several petitions to Government as well as to local authorities for allotment of C.I. Sheets, but to no effect ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that wooden structure of these half constructed buildings have decayed due to their exposure to sun and rain during these long period ?
- (e) If so, how long Government will take to supply C. I. Sheets to these departmental buildings ?
- (f) How many Co-operative Farming Societies are functioning in Golaghat Subdivision stating their names and area under sugarcane cultivation ?
- (g) What is the number of new Co-operative Farms registered during 1958 ?
- (h) What is the amount of loan sanctioned to different Co-operative Farms of Golaghat Subdivision during 1957-58, and what are the names of those farms ?
- (i) Whether the Co-operative Officers instruct the Co-operative Farms to keep accounts properly ?
- (j) If so, what are these Co-operative Farms are inspected by Co-operative Officers ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation)

replied :

298. (a)—4 (four) godowns at the following places :—

1. Gurjogonia.
2. Dergaon.
3. Missamara.
4. Thengalgaon.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The Societies have applied for C. I. Sheets to local authorities. Only Gurjogonia bank wired for a permit of 16 bundles of C. I. Sheets and the telegram was forwarded to the Director of Consumer Goods for consideration.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Permits have been issued for C. I. Sheets by the Director of Consumer Goods.

(f)—

Name	Area under sugarcane
1. Nabajyoti KPSS, Ltd. ...	1500B
2. Samajkalyan KPSS, Ltd. ...	1550B
3. Dakhinhengra KPSS, Ltd. ...	420B
4. Lakhi KPSS, Ltd. ...	45B
5. Udayan KPSS, Ltd. ...	80B
6. Adarsha KPSS, Ltd. ...	50B
7. Adarsha KPSS, Ltd. (II) ...	1160B
8. Dhudangbhabuli KPSS ...	40B
9. Baruaogaon Stasang C.F.S., Ltd. ...	1000B
10. Buragohainkhat KPSS, Ltd. ...	500B
11. Ekorani Joint C.F.S., Ltd. ...	124B
12. Lakhimi KPSS, Ltd. ...	130B
13. Bijuli KPSS, Ltd. ...	180B
14. Dachamua KPSS, Ltd. ...	200B
15. Pulibar KPSS, Ltd. ...	80B
16. Kaliani KPSS, Ltd. ...	100B
17. Tengahola KPSS, Ltd. ...	120B
18. Fallangani KPSS, Ltd. ...	220B
19. Bontai KPSS, Ltd. ...	28B
20. Salmaragrang KPSS, Ltd. ...	67B
21. Thuramukh Ahatguri KPSS, Ltd. ...	100B
22. Majukuchai Gohaingaon KPSS, Ltd. ...	400B

(g)—12 (twelve).

(h)—

Name of Societies	Amount of Loan
1. Nabajyoti KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs.70,250.00
2. Lakhimi KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs. 5,000.00
3. Lakhi KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs. 2,000.00
4. Udayan KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs. 2,000.00
5. Adarshya KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs. 5,000.00
6. Adarshya KPSS, Ltd. (II) ...	Rs.17,190.00
7. Dhudangbhabuli KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs. 3,000.00
8. Ekorani Joint C.F.S., Ltd. ...	Rs. 7,800.00
9. Samajkalyan KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs.22,300.00
10. Dakhinhengra KPSS, Ltd. ...	Rs.40,150.00
11. Baruaogaon Satsang C.F.S., Ltd. ...	Rs.17,480.00

(i)—Yes.

(j)—The information is not readily available and is being collected.

Regarding Fourth Grade employee of State Transport Department

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

*299. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the monthly total emolument drawn by a Fourth Grade Employee of State Transport Department ?
- (b) What is the monthly total emolument drawn by a Fourth Grade Employee of other Departments of Government of Assam ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Fourth Grade Employees of State Transport Department are getting less of the total emoluments than that of their compeers in Departments ?
- (d) If so why such differential treatment is made ?
- (e) Whether Government will be pleased to revise the emoluments in respect of the Fourth Grade Employees of State Transport Department in order to make that equal with the monthly total emoluments of other 4th Grade Employees of other Government Departments in Assam ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister of Transport) replied :

299. (a)—The monthly total emoluments drawn by a 4th Grade Employees of the State Transport Department is as under—

- (1) United Khasi and Jaintia Hills—

Pay in the scale of Rs.28— $\frac{1}{2}$ —1—36—1—40 per mensem.

Dearness allowance at 50 per cent for pay of Rs.30 or below.

Dearness allowance at 25 per cent of pay above Rs.30 upto Rs.60 *plus* extra dearness allowance of Rs.6 and cash allowance of Rs.13-8-0.

- (2) Rest of Assam—

Pay in the scale of Rs.28— $\frac{1}{2}$ —36—1—40 per mensem. Dearness allowance at 40 per cent of pay of Rs.30 or below.

Dearness allowance at 20 per cent of pay above Rs.30 upto Rs.60 *plus* extra dearness allowance of Rs.6 and cash allowance of Rs.13-8-0.

(b)—(1) United Khasi and Jaintia Hills—

Pay in the scale of Rs.28— $\frac{1}{2}$ —36—1—40 per mens. Dearness allowance at 50 per cent of pay or Rs.30 or below. Dearness allowance at 25 per cent of pay above Rs.30 upto Rs.60 *plus* extra dearness allowance of Rs.6 and cash allowance of Rs.13-8-0 *plus* ad hoc increase in dearness allowance not exceeding Rs.12.

(2) Rest of Assam—

Pay in the scale of Rs.28— $\frac{1}{2}$ —36—1—40 per mens. Dearness allowance at 40 per cent of pay of Rs.30 or below. Dearness allowance at 20 per cent of pay above Rs.30 upto Rs.60 *plus* extra dearness allowance of Rs.6 and cash allowance of Rs.13-8-0 *plus* ad hoc increase in dearness allowance not exceeding Rs.12.

(c)—Yes, to the extent of ad hoc increase in dearness allowance only which is under consideration of Government.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Does not arise in view of replies to questions (c) above.

Regarding patients in Mental Hospital, Tezpur

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked:

*300. Will the Minister in-charge of Medical Department be pleased to State—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that owing to the increasing number of patient in the Mental Hospital, Tezpur, the accommodation there has become inadequate ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that patients have to be kept outside the barracks in the verendahs ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that outdoor treatment has to be made for want of accommodation ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that there is a long waiting list of a big number of patients, requiring admission ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to take early steps for extending accommodation to remove overcrowding and admit patients in the waiting list ?

- (f) Whether it is a fact that there are no quarters for some staff ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to take early steps for the construction of staff quarters for those who have no quarters ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that there is no water connection in any quarters ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that water supply to quarters is done by the mental patients ?
- (j) Whether Government propose to introduce water tap connection in every quarters and do away with the practice of carrying water by patients to these quarters ?
- (k) Whether Government are aware that in 1957 one Biren Chandra Das, a male keeper was killed by a mental patient, Shri Ram Krishna Das, while the former was on duty in the main gate and no compensation was given to his family ?
- (l) Whether it is a fact that one Musafir Basfar, sweeper, was killed by a mental patient while the former was cleaning the cell of the latter ?
- (m) Whether it is a fact that no compensation was given to the family of the deceased sweeper ?
- (n) Whether it is a fact that very recently one Seikh Farid, a mental patient killed another mental patient and injured three others very seriously ?
- (o) Whether it is a fact that 3 dozen armed and Civil Police had to be engaged and tear gas had to be used eleven times to catch hold of the assailant and a police constable was injured during the scuffle ?
- (p) Whether any compensation has been given to the family of the deceased mental patient as stated in (n) above ?

- (q) Whether it is a fact that once a patient killed another patient with a hoe while they were working in the Hospital garden ?
- (r) Whether any compensation has been given to the family of the deceased patient ?
- (s) Whether it is a fact that once a patient bit off a portion of the ear of the Head Keeper, Shri Bharat Chandra Deb Nath, while the latter was on duty ?
- (t) Whether it is a fact that the Hospital Authority recommended a lump sum grant of Rs.60 as compensation to the Head-Keeper ?
- (u) Whether it is a fact that no orders have been passed by the Government in this regard ?
- (v) Whether it is a fact that there are no security measures for the protection of the keepers and the staff ?
- (w) Whether it is a fact that risk allowance for the staff was proposed by the local authority to the Government long ago and no action has been taken by the Government as yet ?
- (x) Whether Government propose to provide security measures to the staff and sanction risk allowance to them ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical)
replied :

300. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—Government have no information.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—The matter is under active consideration of Government.

(h)—Yes.

(i)—Government have no information.

(j)—Steps have already been taken to improve the water-pipe connection in the Mental Hospital, Tezpur.

(k)—Yes. The admisibility of granting compensation to the legal heirs of the deceased is under scrutiny of Government.

(l)—Yes.

(m)—Yes.

(n)—Yes. Seikh Farid killed one Bhabakumi and injured one person, who had completely recovered.

(o)—Police tried tear gas and ultimately Farid was captured sustaining slight injury to one constable while in scuffle.

(p)—No.

(q)—Yes.

(r)—No.

(s)—Yes.

(t)—Yes.

(u)—Yes.

(v)—No special security measures have been taken. But all the keepers and head-keeper have been provided with whistle so that in case of any apprehended danger they can raise alarm and call for help. The head keeper on duty goes round the ward frequently to see how things are going on.

(w)—The proposal for grant of risk allowance to the staff of the Mental Hospital, Tezpur is under active consideration of Government.

(x)—Does not arise in view of (v) and (w) above.

Water-outlet on the Pagladiya Embankment of the village Sandha-Kairara under Nalbari Police Station

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*361. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage Division) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that at water-outlet has been left unconstructed on the Pagladiya embankment (eastern side) near the Railway line and on the western side of the village Sandha-Kairara under Nalbari Police Station ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that a bridge has been constructed over the said outlet ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that all the flood-water that flows out of the said outlet flooded every year, the villages like Sandha Karira, Chenikuchi, Kendukuchi, Sandha, etc. (about fifteen in number) causing tremendous loss to the paddy crop ?
- (d) If so, whether Government proposes to close down the said outlet to save the interest of the poor villagers ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage)) replied :

301. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Some flooding of these villages does take place through this flood-escape outlet though the extent of flooding is in no way intense than what it used to be before the embankments were constructed. These villages constituted only a small fraction of vast areas on either side of the Pagladiya river upstream of the Railway line that come under the protection of the embankments.

(d)—The outlet which functions as a flood-escape cannot be closed unless water-ways of the Road and Railway bridge are adequately increased to cater for the additional discharge now escaping through this opening. The Railways have undertaken widening of their bridge. It has been decided that the road bridge also should be adequately widened to safely cater for the maximum discharge of the river and the question of financing the same is under consideration of the Government.

Collection made by Bharat Sevak Samaj (B.S.S.), Karimganj Branch, from amusement tax free shows of Jatra, Theatre and Circus from 1956 till today

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

302. (a) What is the total collection made by Bharat Sevak Samaj (B. S. S.), Karimganj Branch, from amusement tax free shows of Jatra, Theatre and Circus from the year 1956 till today ?

(b) Whether the taxes were collected by the Government and then it was handed over to the Bharat Sevak Samaj as they were collected by somebody of Bharat Sevak Samaj ?

(c) If the latter, whether this organisation kept proper account of the taxes received by them show by show ?

(d) Whether the Convenor, Bharat Sevak Samaj, Karimganj, had submitted any detailed account of sale proceeds and taxes he received from different shows to Government ?

(e) If not, what action has been taken by the Government against the Convenor, Bharat Sevak Samaj, Karimganj ?

(f) Whether it is a fact that different sections of the Public including some members of Bharat Sevak Samaj, Karimganj, brought it to the notice of the Government that the Convenor has utilised the fund for his personal benefit and there is no regular account kept by the Convenor ?

(g) Whether it is a fact that the Government then issued notice to the said Convenor to submit account to the Superintendent of Taxes, Karimganj ?

(h) Whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of Taxes granted more time to the Convenor on his prayer ?

(i) Whether it is also a fact that the Convenor in the meantime applied to the Government for the exemption of past accounts under the provisions of the Assam Amusement Tax ?

(j) If so, what action has been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the person concerned ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance, Minister)
replied :

302. (a)—The total collections made by the Bharat Sevak Samaj from tax-free shows are shown below from the year 1956—

(i) 1956—Rs.21,500·00.

(ii) 1957—Rs.4,083·61.

(iii) 1958—Rs.18,678·88.

(vi) 1959—Rs.12,818·26.

(b)—As the shows were exempted from payment of entertainment tax, the question of collection of the tax by Government and the subsequent transfer of the amount to the Bharat Sevak Samaj does not arise. The Bharat Sevak Samaj did not collect any money by way of amusement tax save the admission price.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—The Convenor of the Bharat Sevak Samaj submitted daily sales report of each show which have been duly verified and checked by the Inspector of Taxes. But he could not produce the detailed accounts of expenses for the years 1956 to 1958. As no amusement tax was realised separately, the question of production of account regarding collection of tax does not arise. The accounts for the shows held in 1959 were duly checked and found correct.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—No notice was issued by the Government to the Convenor of the Bharat Sevak Samaj to submit account to the Superintendent of Taxes, Karimganj. It is the Superintendent of Taxes, Karimganj who asked the Convenor to produce accounts.

(h)—Yes, the Convenor was allowed 20 days' time to produce the accounts when he prayed for further time.

(i)—The Convenor has applied to Government for exemption from production of detailed accounts in respect of shows held from 29th December, 1957 to 1st February, 1958.

(j)—The matter is still under enquiry.

Local Board Bazar at Sorbhog

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

303. Will the Minister-in-charge of L. S. G. be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the defaulters are allowed to make fresh bid at the time of auction of Local Board Bazar at Sorbhog ?
- (b) Whether notices are served to general public for information prior to auction ?
- (c) Whether the terms and conditions are announced at the time of auction ?
- (d) If the reply to (a) above is in the negative, why the old lessee was allowed to make fresh bid for the years 1958-59 ?
- (e) Whether the present, lessee of Sorbhogh Bazar was a defaulter for the year 1957-58 ?
- (f) What was the amount of defaulted money and for how many years ?
- (g) Whether he is still a defaulter and if so, what steps have been taken to recover the amount defaulted ?
- (h) Whether any distress warrant has been issued against him for the recovery of the defaulted money ?
- (i) Why during the year 1959-60 the said lessee was allowed to get the Bazar (Sorbhog flat) at Rs.9,125 against the higher bid of Rs.12,000 ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that the present lessee was a contractor who constructed the cold weather bridge at Bhulukadoba which collapsed within two months of its constructions ?

(k) Whether Government are aware that persons who had bidden Rs. 12,000 appealed to the Local Board and that his petition was forwarded by some members of the Barpeta Local Board who were present at the spot?

(l) Whether the Local Board has taken any step in the matter?

(m) How much remission has been given to the said lessee since 1957?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L.S.-G.) replied:

303. (a)—As a rule defaulters are not allowed to bid at the time of auction but in the interest of particular markets fetching no other suitable bidders, as in the case of Sorbhog for some time past, exceptions are made with the sanction or approval of the Board's meeting.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The old lessee was allowed to bid for the year 1958-59 because the Board considered him to be the most suitable part so far as the interest and improvement of the market were concerned.

(e)—Yes, but in the auction sale for the year 1957-58, the bid for the market had gone upto Rs. 11,000 double the bid amount of 1956-57. The lessee had paid up Rs. 7,700 and had on different occasions applied for remissions on various grounds. The Board had under rule 133(4) of the L.S.-G. Rules informally agreed to give a consideration to his prayer.

(f)—Rs.330 for 1957-58.

(g)—Yes. Steps for recovery will be taken if necessary, after the Board has taken a decision on his prayer for remission.

(h)—Distress warrants were issued as usual but these have since been held up pending consideration of his prayer for remission by the Board.

(i)—There was no recorded bid of Rs. 12,000 for the market for the year 1959-60.

(j) Information has been called for from Public Works Department as the bridge in question is under the Public Works Department.

(k) & (l)—On receipt of an allegation from Shri G. Talukdar, M.L.A., to this effect, Government have issued stay order and the matter is under investigation.

(m)—As the record of the Board are with Hon'ble High Court in connection with a civil rule for imposition of licence fees on private hats, it is not possible to give exact amount.

Howli Local Board Bazar

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nabari-Wsst) asked :

*304. Will the Minister-in-charge of L. S.-G. be pleased to state—

(a) Who has been made the lessee of the Howli Local Board Bazar for the year 1959-60 ?

(b) Whether he is a servant of the Panchayat President, Howli Mauza ?

(c) Whether his financial stability was taken into consideration while accepting his bid ?

(d) Whether there were other bidders with sound economic conditions ?

(e) Whether this Bazar will be re-auctioned ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L.S.-G.) replied:

304. (a)—The hat was settled with one Altaf Hussain.

(b)—Government have no information.

(c)—As he paid up the choutha as required under rules, at the time his financial stability could not be doubted ; it transpired only later on that he did not actually command the desirable financial stability and the matter was referred to the Board's meeting.

(d)—There were other bidders including the old lessee, but it is not possible to opine on the financial stability of them all.

(e)—No. The Board's meeting has under rules modified the settlement.

Bridges over the Beki, Bhulukadoba, Manas and Aie Rivers

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*305. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.) Wing be pleased to state—

(a) When the bridges over the Beki, Bhulukadoba, Manas and Aie will be completed ?

(b) Whether they are intersecting the North Trunk Road ?

(c) Whether the cold weather bridge over the river Bhulukadoba collapsed and truck fell down into the river ?

(d) Whether the P. W. D. Minister along with the Medical Minister crossed the bridge taking great risk of their lives in the later part of January, 1959 ?

(e) Whether Government are aware that on 7th February a man died falling on the Bhulukadoba river ?

(f) If not, whether Government will inquire about it?

(g) How many persons have died at the Beki railway bridge since 1942 ?

(h) Whether Government will give top priority about the construction of these bridges ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R.&B.)] replied :

305. (a)—These are not included in any of the approved schemes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No. But it was damaged by a truck carrying a load of 120 Mds. (approximately) passing over the bridge without taking notice of all the caution boards.

(d) —Ministers crossed the bridge after necessary repairs.

(e)—Government have not received any such report.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Government have not information.

(h)—The proposal will be put up before the Assam Road Communication Board.

Establishment of a Joint Inspectorate *vice* Electrical and Factory

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked:

*306. Will the Minister-in-charge of Power and Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a joint Inspectorate *vide* Electrical and Factory was established on 1st April, 1930 and separated on 1st March, 1955?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the staff both Inspectorates including Officers have not been given chance to exercise option at the time of separation as to the particular Inspectorate where they want to serve?

(c) What are the reasons for maintaining a separate Electrical Inspectorate or 3 or 4 private Electric supplies and some Cinema House while Government is contemplating to nationalise the remaining private managements?

(d) Whether it is a fact that a separate Electricity Board was formed on 1st March, 1958 to cope with the Development Scheme and also to undertake the management of State owned electric supplies?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the appointment of the Senior Electrical Inspector has been made under Regulation 3 and in violation of Rule No. 4 of the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956?

(f) If so, why?

(g) Why the post has not yet been advertised by the Assam Public Service Commission ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Labour for Minister, Electricity) replied :

306. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The separation was effected according to the decision of the Government in the interest of public service.

(c)—The Inspectorate is required to carry out the statutory functions under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and the rules made thereunder, and to inspect all the undertakings in the State including those under the Electricity Board under the provisions of Section 26 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.

(d)—Yes. The Assam State Electricity Board has been formed with effect from 1st June 1958 under Section 5 of the Electricity (Supply) Act 1948 to carry out the statutory functions under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.

(e)—He was appointed under Section (3) of the Assam Public Service Rules, but this does not violate Rule No.4 of the Electricity Rules, 1956 as he possesses the necessary qualification.

(f) —This does not arise.

(g)—Steps have been taken to fill up the post through Assam Public Service Commission by advertisement.

Electric shock to Shri Mahabir Rai and Shrimati Aroti Das at Shillong

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

*307. Will the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that one Shri Mahabir Rai received electric shock and sustained severe injury on 30th January, 1959 from the earth leakage of sub-station No.9 at Bishnupur, Shillong, which spread to the neighbouring residence of Shri D. Mahanta and as a result of which the barbed wire fencing of his compound was also electrified ?

- (b) If so, what action has been taken by Government against the Shillong Hydro-Electric Co. ?
- (c) Whether the said Shri Mohabir Rai received any medical treatment from any doctor engaged by the Shillong Hydro-electric Co. ?
- (d) If so, who is the Doctor ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that a member of the family of an employee of the Shillong Hydro-electric Co., Srimati Aroti Das, residing at the staff quarters adjacent to the said sub-station No.9 was similarly electrified on 20th January 1959 ; and the same leakage occurred at Don Bosco corner some days back ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Labour and Minister, Electricity) replied :

307. (a)—Shri Mahabir Rai received minor injury from the barbed wire fencing on 30th January 1959. The barbed wire got charged due to the high resistance of the earth electrode provided to earth the guard wire when the live conductor came into contact with the said guard wire.

(b)—The Senior Electrical Inspector has already issued necessary directions to the Shillong Hydro-electric to rectify the defects in earthing system in the sub-station and the defects have already been rectified.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Dr. S. Bhattacharyya, M. B., Laban, Shillong.

(e)—(i) Srimati Arati Das received mild shock from earth wire on 20th January, 1959.

(ii) Yes, there was leakage in the distribution line in front of Don Bosco on 20th January, 1959 due to breakdown of one pin insulator in the 3.3KV. system, and this breakdown of insulator was caused by lightning.

**Total number of Electric energy consumers at
Shillong**

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked:

*308. Will the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state

- (a) What is the total number of electric energy consumers at Shillong ?
- (b) Whether all of them were served with detailed estimates for house service connection at the time of house connection as per their conditions of supply No. 1 of part III ?
- (c) If not, in how many cases of service connection the detailed estimates were not supplied and that are the reason therefor ?
- (d) What action Government propose to take against the company for this default ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Labour for Minister, Electricity) replied :

308. (a)—3,640.

(b)—It is not obligatory on the part of the Company to furnish such estimate as per terms of the conditions of supply.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Does not arise.

Grant-in-aid to Sarthebari Society for Development of Bell Metal Industry

Shri MAHADEB DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

309. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) How many of Kahars (Artisans and bell metal) are there in Assam ?
- (b) What is the total amount of financial assistance in the shape of loan or grants-in-aid is required by the Kahars for improving their bell metal industries according to the applications now pending with Government ?
- (c) Whether the Co-operative Bell Metal Society, Sarthebari lately applied to Government for any financial aid ?
- (d) What measures have been taken for improvement of the Bell Metal Industry and the aforesaid Bell Metal Society after the visit of the Deputy Co-operative Minister and the Minister Cottage Industries to the Society ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to supply the Society with required financial aid for implementing their scheme ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the society has not received subsidy for sales-tax for more than two years ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister-in-Charge of Industries) replied:

309 (a)—There are 1747 Kahars working in the State according to the information available with Government, but no detailed survey has been made in this regard.

(b)—38 applications for loan involving Rs. 38,000 are pending with Government for scrutiny and enquiry reports from the Districts.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The Government issued a loan of Rs. 1,83,922 to the Sarthebari Society for development of Bell Metal Industry. This Society has also been given an amount of Rs. 5,000 as grants-in-aid. In all the Society has received Rs. 40,000 grants-in-aid as follows:

- | | | |
|-----|------------|---------------------|
| (1) | Rs. 10,000 | sanctioned in 1955. |
| (2) | Rs. 10,000 | " 1956. |
| (3) | Rs. 10,000 | " 1957. |
| (4) | Rs. 5,000 | " 1958. |
| (5) | Rs. 5,000 | " 1959. |

The Sarthebari Bell Metal Society was also assisted with the supply of 49 mds. of Bell metal scrap on credit basis. The Government Emporium also purchased articles worth Rs. 10,000 from the Society.

(e)—As stated at (d) above, considerable assistance by way of loan has already been given to the Society. Further financial aid will be considered to the extent necessary if additional security can be furnished by the Society.

(f)—Yes.

Free studentship to Backward Community, Schedule Caste Community and Tribal

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*310. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether students from Backward Community, Scheduled Castes Community and Tribals whose parents income is sufficiently low, have not been sanctioned free studentship of once they get plucked in their respective annual examinations?

(b) If not, why the Headmaster of Kaithalkuchi Government Aided High English School in the District of Kamrup ordered such students to pay up full fees?

(c) Whether Government will be pleased to make an enquiry?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department) replied:

310 (a)—Until 1957-58 no restriction was imposed on renewal of free studentships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe students eligible to such freeship. In October last year on a reference from the Director of Public Instruction, it was decided by Government that the concession should not be extended to plucked students. On the recommendation of the State Advisory Council for Scheduled Castes the Government had reviewed the restriction orders and had decided to allow the concession to those eligible students who are not detained in the same class for more than one year. This revised order had been issued by the Director of Public Instruction to Heads of all educational institutions for necessary action.

(b)—The Director of Public Instruction has already been instructed to ascertain the facts. If it is found that fees had already been realised from the eligible students steps would be taken to refund the same to them by giving additional compensatory grant to the School this year.

(c)—Covered by reply to (b) above.

Proposal to construct Nalbari-Kaithalkuchi Road

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

311. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Welfare, be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that a good number of poor tribal Kachari, Scheduled Castes Kaivarta and other backward classes people live in the village like Madhupur, Kharhitha, Balijor, Bausiapara, etc., near an undeveloped village path leading from Kaithalkuchi Railway Station to the Nalbari (Gopalbazar) ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that this is the only and the main village path connecting the said people with Kaithalkuchi Railway Station and Nalbari Bazar—which is the only bazar for marketing their produce, etc. ?

(c) Whether Government is aware that the villagers including the questioner submitted petitions to the Government to construct the said Nalbari-Kaithalkuchi Road from the Fund under Art. 275 ?

(d) If so, whether Government propose to take up the project immediately ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Welfare) replied :

311. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes, but due to shortage of fund under Art. 275 for the welfare of the plain tribals, it was decided to place the proposal before the 6th Meeting of the Assam Road Communication Board with a view to examine if the same could be accomodated in some other road programme.

(d)—The proposal was duly considered by the Assam Road Communication Board at its 6th Meeting but due to paucity of funds no new roads could be taken up.

Scholarships to the children of Political sufferers in the State

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon) asked:

*312. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government sanctioned any scholarship to children of political sufferers in various educational institutions of the State during 1958 ?

(b) If so, what is the number of such children and total amount spent on them ?

(c) If not, why not ?

(d) Whether Government is aware that due to discontinuance or non-sanctioning of scholarships, the political sufferers have been put to immense hardship in matters of imparting education to their children ?

(e) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps for sanctioning such scholarships early ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister-in-charge, Political Sufferers) replied:

312. (a)—Yes.

(b)—One thousand and seventy-two students (including 244 cases of renew).

Total amount spent Rs. 65,835.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—The scholarships are sanctioned on the recommendations of the District Selection Committees. At times their recommendations are received late and this causes delay. Once the scholars are selected the scholarships are sanctioned regularly. No scholarships have been discontinued but renewal of scholarships are subject to satisfactory academic progress and good conduct.

(e)—Does not arise.

Under-trial prisoners in Barpeta Magistrate lock-up

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

*313. Will the Minister, Jails be pleased to state—

(a) What is the capacity (seat) of to keep under-trial prisoners within Barpeta Magistrate lock-up?

(b) What is the number of under-trial prisoners kept within this Magistrate's lock-up each month for the last two years?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the under-trial prisoners though they are not convicts, are to carry water from the Mora Nadi crossing the main road and when by pair and with three buckets at a time each pair is to carry water for hours together?

(d) Whether Government are aware or received reports to the effect that by doing this water carrying business corruption is encouraged as those poor persons who cannot pay illegal gratification are to carry water?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Jails) replied :

313. (a)—The lock-up has accommodation for 30 under-trial prisoners.

(b)—Information has been called for.

(c)—It is not a fact that the under-trial prisoners are to carry water for hours together ; but in order to meet their own requirements they are to carry water in rotation from the 'Mora Nadi' on the other side of the Public Works Department road immediately adjacent to lock-up as there is no well inside the lock-up pallisade.

(d)—Government have no information.

Scholarships reserved for the students of Backward Classes during 1958-59

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked :

314. Would the Minister-in-charge, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

(a) What is the number of special scholarship reserved for students during the year 1958-59 belonging to the other backward Classes passing the following examination ?

(b) What is the value of a scholarship of each of the categories mentioned in question (a) above ?

(c) What is the number of students who received scholarships during the year under each category mentioned in question ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Tribal Areas Department, etc.) replied :

314. (a)—(1) Matric 28

(2) Middle Vernacular 24

(3) Middle English 70

(4) Lower Primary 108

(b)—(1) Matric each at Rs.10 per mensem *plus* free tuition.

- (2) Middle English at Rs.7 per mensem *plus* free tuition.
- (3) Middle Vernacular at Rs.6 per mensem *plus* free tuition.
- (4) Lower Primary at Rs.5 per mensem *plus* free tuition.

(c)—Sanction for the total number of scholarships reserved as mentioned in (a) above has been issued.

Loan sanctioned by Cottage Industries during the period from 31st March, 1958 to 31st January, 1959

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMAH (Digboi)
asked:

*315. Will the Minister, Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of loan applications for Small Scale Industries received during the period from 1st March, 1958 to 31st January 1959 and the number of applicants who were granted loan ?
- (b) The number of loan applications received since joining of the present Director of Industries till 31st January 1959 and the number of applicants who were granted loan ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:
Cottage Industries Department

315. (a)—809 applications were received during the period and out of which 271 cases had been sanctioned loan involving a sum of Rs.5,81,045 only.

Sericulture and Weaving Department

590 applications were received during the afore-said period and out of which 153 cases had been granted with loans.

Cottage Industries Department

(b)—Since the joining of the Director of Industries, Assam, 630 applications were received and 134 cases amounting to Rs.3,83,640 had been sanctioned.

Sericulture and Weaving Department

401 applications were received and out of them 107 were granted with loans.

Disposal of sanctioned loan petitions

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*316. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that hundreds of sanctioned loan petitions are unduly held up and delayed in the office of the Industries?

(b) If so, how many such sanctioned petitions are still to be disposed of in the office of Director?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

316. (a)—No. All sanctioned loan cases have been disposed of.

(b)—Does not arise.

Grant to Harijan Hindi Bidyalaya, Nalbari

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA asked:

*317. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that a Hindu Primary School, called Harijan Hindi Bidyalaya is founded by the Harijans (Scavengers) themselves within the Municipal area of Nalbari?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the said Harijan Hindi Bidyalaya, sent petitions after petitions to the Government necessary help including monetary aid?

(c) If so, what is the decision of Government in this respect?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

317. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, some petitions were received.

(c)—A non-recurring grant of Rs.12,000 has been given in 1958-59.

Inspection of Sadiya Government High School

Shi DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*318. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Sadiya Government High School has not been inspected by the Inspector of Schools during a period of more than 10 (ten) years ?

(b) When this Sadiya Government High School was inspected last by the Inspector of Schools ?

(c) Whether the Director of Public Instruction, Deputy Director of Public Instruction or Assistant Director of Public Instruction visited this Government High School since attainment of Independence ?

(d) Whether the Minister of Education or the Deputy Minister of Education visited this Government High School during a period of last 20 years ?

(e) Whether Government are aware that most of the teachers transferred to Sadiya from Gauhati, Jorhat or other advanced places, consider this as punishment ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

318. (a)—No. The School has been inspected twice by the Inspector of Schools during the period.

(b)—In 1957.

(c)—No.

(d)—No.

(e)—Government are not aware.

Total amount spent by Government in the last Political Conference held at Dibrugarh

Maulavi TAZUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

*319. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) The amount of money the State Government had to spent in connection with the last Political Conference held at Dibrugarh for:—

(1) sanitary arrangements ;

(2) water supply ;

(3) traffic arrangements ; etc ;

(4) exhibition ; and

(5) paying T. A. to all grades of officials and Government servants who had to undertake tours in connection with the Conference ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

319. (a)—(1) to (5) Information has been called for.

Regarding opening of a Dispensary at Bartari in Barpet Subdivision

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*320. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether petitions have lately been received by the Medical Minister for a dispensary at Bartari in Barpet Subdivision ?

(b) If so, when and how many and by whom were they sent ?

(c) Why no dispensary has been sanctioned there yet ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that Minister-in-charge assured to sanction a dispensary there ?

(e) At whose instance a foundation stone was laid at Bartari for a dispensary ?

(f) When the foundation stone was laid ?

(g) Whether Government propose to expedite the matter ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied:

320.—(a) to (d) Information being collected.

(e)—There was no instructions from Government for laying the foundation stone.

(f)—Does not arise.

(g)—The question will be further examined and if actually justified will be considered along with others in due course.

Removal of public bus stand of Dhubri Town from the present site

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked:

*321. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the public bus stand of Dhubri town has recently been removed in front of a brothels of the Dhubri Town ?

(b) Whether Government or the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara lately received any resolution of a public meeting objecting to the said removal of the public bus stand in front of its present site ?

(c) What action Government propose to take to remove the public bus stand to a respectable or dignified locality of the town ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Transport Minister) replied:

321. (a), (b) & (c)—The information is being collected.

Regarding "Pathya Puthi" of "Primary Schools"

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*322. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a letter published in the weekly *Assam Bani* of 20th February 1959, under the caption "Primary School or Puthya Puthi" ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that some of the books prescribed for some of the Primary Schools bear no approval either of the Director of Public Instruction or of a Text Book Committee ?
- (c) If so, whether Government propose to make an enquiry and take necessary steps in the matter ?
- (d) Whether there is any limit fixed as to the number of books for schools, to be published by a publisher ?
- (e) If so, how many books are generally allowed to be published by one publisher ?
- (f) Whether all the authorised publishers are supplying only the required number of books in a year ?
- (g) What steps Government generally take when publishers violate this rule ?
- (h) Whether any such steps against any such publishers for violating the rule has ever been taken ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

322. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Government have no information but on the basis of the press report mentioned above the Inspecting Officers have been asked to look into the matter and report.

(c)—Action will be taken, if necessary on the report submitted by the officers.

(d)—No.

(e)—As many books as are approved by Government.

(f)—The question is not clear.

(g)—When rules are violated publishers are not allowed to submit books for approval or the books in questions are struck off the list, depending on the rule violated.

(h) Presidency Library and Orient Book Company were debarred from submitting books to Assam Text Book Committee for three years with effect from 1953 as they had included unprescribed books in the list of their periodical publications.

Regarding help from the Government to the students of Golaghat Subdivision

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMAH (Dergaon) asked :

*323. Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the tribal people of Golaghat Subdivision do not get adequate help from the Government for education of their students in different educational institutions ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that some educational institutions of Golaghat Subdivision where 99 per cent of the pupils are tribals have not got sufficient help from the Government ?

(c) If so, what steps are being taken in the matter ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the Basic Education Officer assured the people of Kamargaon that a sum of Rs.8,000 (eight thousand) would be sanctioned for the building of the said school ?

(e) Whether Government is aware that this is one of the oldest educational institutions of the State where the majority of students are tribal ?

(f) Whether Government is aware that the local people on the assurance of the Basic Officer arranged a big plot for construction of the building ?

- (g) Whether it is fact that the Government desire to convert the Bonkual Lower Primary to a senior Basic School and sanction Rs.15,000 for the purpose ?
- (h) If so, whether Government propose to take early steps for granting building grants to these tribal educational institutions ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

323. (a)—No. It is not correct.

(b)&(c) No, it is not a fact and Government is not aware. The tribal grant under Article 275 distributed after due consultation with Local Tribal M.L. As Golaghat Schools are not accordingly neglected. Grant is distributed according to the fund that is received from the centre.

(d) Yes, in consultation with the Chairman, School Board and Secretary, School Board, the School has been selected. Rs.8,250 has been sanctioned for conversion of this School into a Senior Basic School under the Second Plan.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—No information.

(g) & (h)—Yes. Rs.10,000 for hostel and Rs.5,000 for School building have been sanctioned this year from grant under Article 275.

Approval of construction of Basic Training College building at Nalbari

Shri PROBHA T NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

324. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) When the estimates of Nalbari Basic College building were approved of, when contractors appointed and when construction works were started ?

(b) When according to contract deed works were to be completed ?

- (c) Whether Government are aware that Nalbari Basic College is put to a great a handicap for delay in completion of the buildings ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Public Works Department issued self-contradictory orders for supply of materials, specially timbers for buildings ?
- (e) If so, who is responsible for orders and delay in completion of the buildings ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that North Kamrup Public Works Department Division and particularly Nalbari Subdivision is exceptionally under staffed ?
- (g) When the Additional Chief Engineer last visited North Kamrup Division ?
- (h) What definite steps the Chief Engineer had taken for timely and proper execution of this and other works of this Division ?
- (i) Whether any instruction was given to slow down execution of works of this Division ?
- (j) If not, why there is inordinate delay in execution of all works of this Division ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B.)] replied:

324. (a)—The project was administratively approved in February, 1956. Some contractors were engaged in 1956-57 and some in 1957-58. Some of the works were started in 1956-57 and the others in 1957-58.

(b)—There were many tenders, according to which the works were to be completed in September, 1956 ; November 1957 ; December, 1957 ; July, 1958 ; October, 1958 ; November, 1958 and March, 1959.

(c)—Yes, it is likely to be so.

(d)—It is not a fact.

(e)—Does not arise in view of (d) above.

(f)—This Division is under staffed by one Subdivisional Officer Technical and two Overseers of which one Overseer relates to the Nalbari Subdivision.

(g)—During the last week of January, 1959.

(h)—Every step has been taken by the Chief Engineer for proper execution of this works and also for other sanctioned works of the Division ?

(i)—No.

(j)—There is no inordinate delay in execution of any work. Works are proceeding on as per plan and programme.

Rates of Revenue for lands covered by Tea Garden, Periodic Patta and Cultivators in the plain districts of the State

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*325. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the rate of revenue for lands covered by periodic patta and belonging to cultivators in the plains districts of Assam ?
- (b) What is the rate of revenue for lands covered by Tea garden grants and lands belonging to Tea Companies ?
- (c) Whether it is fact that a number of Indian Tea planters have large areas of periodic patta land besides Tea Garden Grants ?
- (d) Whether the ceiling on Land Holdings Act would be applicable to them also ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

325. (a)—The rate of revenue for lands covered by periodic patta belonging to cultivators in the plains districts is not uniform throughout the State. The minimum rate is 19 nP. and the maximum rate is Rs. 2.44 nP. per bigha.

(b)—The rate of revenue for lands covered by Tea Garden Grants is not also uniform throughout the State. The minimum rate is 62 nP. and the maximum rate is Rs. 1.50 nP. per bigha.

(c)—Yes, some of them may have periodic patta lands, besides Tea Garden Grants.

(d)—The Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act is applicable to the periodic patta land held for ordinary cultivation by the Tea Planters. Land held by them for special cultivation of tea or purposes ancillary thereto, is excepted from the scope of this Act, under section 2(c) (1) of said Act.

Regarding M.E. and H. E. Schools of Pacchim Banbhag Mauza, Kamrup District

Shri PROBHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

*326. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) The names of Middle English Schools and High Schools, if any, in Pacchim Banbhag Mauza of Kamrup District?
- (b) When Pacchim Banbhag Middle English School was started as Venture School?
- (c) Whether for the last six years students of this school are appearing in Middle English Leaving Examination as regular students?
- (d) If so, why the school was deprived of the usual maintenance grants, when schools of lower standard than this are receiving Revised Pay Scale Grants?
- (e) Whether the schools was ever visited by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Gauhati?
- (f) If so, when?
- (g) Whether the School was visited by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Gauhati, after Government gave an assurance on the floor of the Assembly that Government would consider sanction of maintenance grant on receipt of inspection report regarding suitability from the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Gauhati?

(h) When the report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Gauhati recommending Revised Pay Scale Grant was received ?

(i) Whether Revised Pay Scale Grant was sanctioned to the school from the date of recommendation ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

326. (a)—No. But a Middle English School exists at Pacchim Bonbhag Mouza. The answers suggested below are meant for the Pacchim Bonbhag Middle English School.

(b)—When the Additional Deputy Inspector of Schools visited the School on 8th August, 1958 it was reported that the school was started in 1946, but due to storm damage of the school building, it was closed down from 1950-51 for want of funds and again the school came into existence from 1951.

(c)—The students of Pacchim Bonbhag Middle English School was allowed to appear as regular candidates in the Middle School Leaving Certificate Examination, 1958 only. Before 1958 the students of this school appeared in the said examination as private candidate as the school was not recognised one.

(d)—The school authority did not submit any petition for maintenance grant nor the required particulars for Revised Pay Scale. The Revised Pay Scale grant is sanctioned only to the recognised schools.

(e) & (f)—Additional Deputy Inspector of Schools visited on 8th August 1958.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—Proposal for Revised Pay Scales grants has been received from Deputy Inspector of Schools, Gauhati in the month of September 1958.

(i)—Pay Scales Grants have been sanctioned with effect from 1st March 1958.

Settlement of Fisheries, Hats, Bazars, Forests coupes, etc., by the *ex*-Proprietors of Zamindaris of Goalpara District

Shri JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked :

*327. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government have promised to consider sympathetically the cases of *ex*-proprietors of Zamindaris of Goalpara District, in the matter of settlement of Fisheries, Hats and Bazars, Forest coupes, etc., *vide* the Revenue Department letter No.RRG.76/57/465, dated 25th August, 1958 ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that no steps are being taken or have been taken up till now in this direction either by the Government or their officers in the district or subdivisional level ?

(c) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps in the matter to rehabilitate these *ex*-proprietors?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

327. (a)—Yes. The Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara and the Conservator of Forests, Assam, were requested to consider the cases of the *ex*-proprietors sympathetically in the matter of settlement of fisheries and forest coupes, hats and bazars have been transferred to the Local Boards and Small Town Committees. Regarding fisheries, however, the accepted principle of giving preference to fishermen's co-operatives, fishermen and scheduled castes people, has to be followed. Deputy Commissioner has been further asked to consider the cases of *ex*-proprietors next to those categories.

(b)—It is not a fact. Diplai beel was earlier ordered to be settled with Shri A. N. Deb for 3 years with effect from 1365 B. S. About 20,000 cft. of illegally felled timber has been ordered by the Forest Department to be settled with *ex*-proprietors. The *ex*-proprietors were offered permits to operate non-sal trees on payment. Some of them have been granted standing sal trees as also the monopoly right to work out tops and branches of Sal trees already operated in the pre-acquisition days.

(c)—Replies above will go to show the measures taken towards rehabilitation.

Erosion of land in Bagnaputa No. 1, No. 2, Balarchar N.C. and N. C. Latal and settlement of Khas land to the eroded people

Shri TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

*328. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the actual area of Bhagnamari P. G. R. of Kamrup district ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that some villages namely, Bagnaputa No. 1, No.2, Balarchar N.C. and N. C. Latal situated on the other side of the river just opposite to the Bhagnamari P.G.R. have been eroded and the land is raised on the side of Bhagnamari P. G. R. ?
- (c) If so, what is the area of such khas land with Bhagnamari P. G. R. and whether Government propose to reserve it including the P. G. R. or give settlement to the eroded people ?
- (d) Whether Government has lately received any petition from those river eroded people praying for settlement of those khas portion of land with them ?
- (e) If so, whether Government propose to consider it ?
- (f) If the reply to (e) above be in the affirmative when Government will consider the same ?
- (g) Whether there was any proposal to dereserve 10,000 bighas of land from this Bhagnamari P. G. R. for rehabilitation of these river eroded people ?
- (h) If so, what is its present position ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

*328. (a)—28,444B 4K 16L.

(b) Yes, there was erosion of these villages. But the accretion of 8,075 bighas of land to Bhagnamari P. G. R. is not necessary due to erosion of in village Nos. 1, 2, 3 Bagnaputa Balarchar N. C. There has been erosion of one part of Bhagnamari P. G. R. and accretion in the other part.

(c)—This area of 8,075 bighas forms a part of the P.G.R. There is no khas land there in the area. There is no proposal to throw it open for settlement.

(d)—Yes, one petition was received on 18th March 1959 from Shri Sorhab Ali Pandit and others of Barkhetri Mouza of Hajo circle.

(e)—The matter has been referred to the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup for enquiry and report.

(f)—Government will consider the matter on receipt of Deputy Commissioner's report.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—Government have dropped the proposal.

Settlement of Excise Shops in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*329. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise, be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government lately received any complaint that in last settlement of Excise shops in Dibrugarh Subdivision 4 or 5 parties could get settlement in the name of about 40 lessees ?

(b) Whether Government lately received any complaint that the Excise Officials give unnecessary harassment to the lessees who manage their shops independently ?

(c) What steps have taken to stop Benamdars to get license to trade the liquor in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

329. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No.

(c)—Precaution is taken both at the general settlement when tenders are enquired into and at the appeal stage to prevent 'benamdars' from getting settlement.

Proposal of Bottling system of Wine

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*330. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Since when Government propose to introduce bottling system in country liquor trade ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that even after the lapse of almost one year Government could not introduce bottling system ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that this proposal of bottling system did not find favour with the Excise officials of Dibrugarh and steps for taking necessary action in this behalf have been slowed down ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Excise) replied:

330. (a)—The Government proposal for introducing the Bottling System dates back November, 1957.

(b)—The Bottling System has been introduced in the Dibrugarh Subdivision with effect from 26th February 1959 and in the Sibsagar District with effect from 1st April, 1959.

(c)—Government are not aware of this.

Amount provided for building projects in the current year (1958-59) Autonomous Districts

Maulavi JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked :

*331. Will the Minister Public Works Department (R.&B.) Wing be pleased to state—

- (a) What was the amount provided for building projects in the current year (1958-59) under Article 275 of the Constitution for the Autonomous Districts ?

- (b) How much has been spent out of it and how much has been or going to be surrendered ?
- (c) How many times either Minister, Public Works Deptment (R. & B.) or both Chief Engineers (R. & B.) and (E. & D.) visited the headquarters or any other places of any of the Autonomous Hills Districts except Shillong, during the working seasons, say from July, 1958 to December 1958 (dates and places to be mentioned specifically) ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.)] replied :

331. (a)—The total amount for building projects under Development Scheme Article 275, as provided in Public Works Department's Budget for 1958-59 is Rs. 15,06,925 distributed on the following sub-heads—

	Rs.
(1) Education	8,81,500
(2) Medical	3,01,000
(3) Public Health	2,84,000
(4) Veterinary	14,025
(5) Cottage Industries	15,000
(6) Sericulture and Weaving	11,400

(b)—The total expenditure is Rs.4,54,537 (approx.) and the total amount surrendered is Rs.10,52,388 as shown in the following sub-heads—

	Rs
(1) Education	7,05,067
(2) Medical	92,222
(3) Public Health	2,55,099

(c)—Dates and places in the Autonomous Districts visited by—

1. Minister Public Works Department.

2. Chief Engineer (Roads and Buildings)—

(i) Diphu—24th June 1958 ...	} Though not from July, 1958 and afterwards.
25th June 1958 ...	
(ii) Jowai—29th December 1958	
1st January 1959]	

3. Additional Chief Engineer (Roads and Buildings Jowai—20th December 1958, 21st December 1958.

Damages caused by Cyclone at Saikhowa Mauza

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked :

*332. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue (Relief and Rehabilitation) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there were cyclone and heavy hail storms on 4th March, 1959 resulting extensive damage to vegetables, bittle, plantain gardens, orange gardens, and other seasonal crops in Kakapathar Maithong area and Eastern portion of Saikhowa Mauza, Southern and Eastern portion of Sadiya Mauza and Northern portion of Buri-dihing Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the cyclone and the hailstorm on that day damaged a large number of dwelling houses, Lower Primary, Middle English, Middle Vernacular and High School buildings and other public buildings such as "Namghars", Libraries and Clubs in that area ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that a number of cattle died here and there due to the hail storm which had occurred there in the afternoon on that day while the cattle were out for grazing ?

(d) Whether any loss of human life is reported ?

(e) Whether Government will state the extent of damage done as referred to in sub-question (a), (b), and (c) above ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

332. (a) to (e)—Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur has been asked to submit report.

Settlement of land for refugees in Bagbar R. & R. Scheme of Barpeta Subdivision

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

333. Will the Minister, Relief and Rahabilitation be pleased to state—

(a) How many bighas of land were reserved for the rehabilitation of refugees within Bagbar R. & R. Scheme of Barpeta Subdivision and what is the area up till now given possession to the refugees ?

(b) Whether it is a fact within this R. & R. Scheme, there are some non-refugee families reserving there for many years prior to reservation was made and they also require settlement of land ?

(c) If so, what is the number of such family and what is the area under their possession ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that these non-refugee people got patta for few bighas, got settlement orders for more bighas and was about to get settlements for the rest subsequently all orders stayed and the lands were reserved for the refugees ?

- (e) Whether Government will settle these lands with non-refugee people who are occupying it for so many years or will evict them without giving them land in other places ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that within this R. & R. area some non-refugee people were evicted during last two years and refugees were put into possession but subsequently refugees have left the place and the lands are lying uncultivated ?
- (g) If so, what is the area of such lands and how many families were evicted from there ?
- (h) Whether Government will settle these lands with non-refugees ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that in this R. & R. areas one vast areas are lying vacant up to this time and no refugee is going there to occupy as the lands are of inferior quality ?
- (j) If so, what is that area ?
- (k) Whether Government will settle these lands with non-refugees ?
- (l) Whether it is a fact that within Bagbar Mauza in Dewldi village near R. & R. Scheme some refugees have got settlement orders for a vast area of land outside the R. & R. area, which is under the occupation of non-refugee people ?
- (m) If so, what is that area and how they got settlement ?
- (n) Whether it is a fact that both refugee and non-refugee people got settlement orders for the same plot of land in village Dewldi outside the R. & R. area though the lands are under the possession of non-refugee people ?
- (o) If so, how this has happened ?
- (p) Whether it is a fact that some refugee people have purchased some annual patta land in Howli, Gobardhana and Bijni, Kharija Bijni Mauza within and outside Tribal Belt and rehabilitate themselves ?

(g) Whether it is a fact that those lands will not be given to them and they will be evicted ?

(r) If so, why ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

333. (a) to (r)—Informations have been called for.

Relinquishment of Land and its occupation by cultivators

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

334. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Joka (Assam) Tea Company relinquished about 1,700 acres of land of Bordoibam Tea Estate in Noth Lakhimpur Sub-division in or about 1950 ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that certain portion of this land is under occupation of cultivators ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that certain portion of this land is under encroachment of an Indian Tea Planter who have been harrassing the cultivators ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that allegations were made by the public that the Sub-Deputy Collector of Subansiri Circle had been supporting the Tea Planter and standing in the way of the cultivators in getting land ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur has not granted pattas to the cultivator who had been occupying land since 1952 ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

334. Information has been called for from the local officer.

Regarding approve Development Schemes

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*335. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Subdivisional Development Boards are allowed to approve Development Schemes ?

(b) If so, why the Subdivisional Officer Barpeta does not allow the Subdivisional Development Board, Barpeta to approve Scheme ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Gauhati Subdivisional Development Board is allowed to approve Schemes of Local Development works ?

(d) Whether the money allotted by the Subdivisional Board, Barpeta since 1957 have been spent ?

(e) If not, why ?

(f) Whether proper inquiry will be made about the spending of money and execution of works ?

(g) If so, when ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Rural Development Department) replied:

*335. (a)—Boards are mainly advisory in character and do not approve development schemes, but give their help in preparation of schemes for utilisation of grants made available for local development works and self-help works.

(b) to (g)—Information has been called for.

Appointment of M. A. teachers for Higher Secondary and Multipurpose schools in superior Scale

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati)
asked :

*336. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are contemplating eventual absorption of the existing graduate teachers in the schools now being upgraded into Higher Secondary and Multipurpose Schools in the same grade and scale of pay as has been prescribed for the newly appointed M. A. teachers for such schools ?

(b) If not, what steps are being proposed to take by Government to safeguard the interests of these existing teachers with regard to their promotion ?

*337. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that the appointment of new M.A. teachers for Higher Secondary and Multipurpose schools in a superior scale of pay has already generated a sense of discontent and a sense of apprehension as to their promotion in the minds of the existing graduate teachers ?

(b) If so, what steps are being proposed to be taken by the Government to remove this sense of discontent and apprehension from the minds of the existing teachers ?

(c) What action has been taken to clarify the whole situation arising out of these new appointments ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied.

336. (a)—No, if higher qualifications are not acquired.

(b)—The question of inter-seniority is being examined.

337. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Does not arise.

**Public objection for settlement of land of dag No. 539
in Marowa, Nalbari**

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*338. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a portion of the land measuring 1K. 7 lechas in dag No.539 in village Marowa, Mouza Upper Barbhag under Police Station Nalbari in the district of Kamrup has lately been settled with an individual who is non-cultivator and rich businessman ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the local people of the village submitted written objection against the said settlement and wanted to keep the said land for public purpose ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that within a period of about six months both the orders relating to annual patta and periodic patta have been passed in favour of that particular individual ?

(d) If the reply to (b) above is in affirmative why the land in question was not kept for public purpose ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

338. (a) to (d)—Information has been called for from the local officer.

**Allocation of C. I. Sheets to Iswar Das Agarwalla,
Nalbari**

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

*339. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that one Iswar Das Agarwalla a Marowari Merchant of Nalbari is the only recognised dealer in C. I. Sheet at Nalbari in the District of Kamrup ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that many bundles of C. I. Sheets were lately allotted to him for his personal use ?
- (c) If so, how many bundles have been sanctioned for his own use during the whole period of control ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that during the year 1958 a quota of 20 bundles were allotted have been utilised by him for his personal purposes ?
- (e) If not, whether Government propose to enquire into the matter ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied.

339. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Only 5 bundles of C. I. Sheets were lately allotted to him to complete his half-done construction.

(c)—Only 8 bundles including 5 bundles as mentioned in (b) above.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

Regarding grants of Panitola Tea Garden

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*340. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) The area of land covered by different grants of Panitola Tea Estate in Dibrugarh Subdivision and the area under Tea in these grants ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that this Tea Estate has been allowing certain land out of these grants on lease to plant Tea by another Tea planter ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that sub-tenancy of other Tea planters in Tea garden grants is not allowed under the ordinary law ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

340. (a) to (c)—Information has been called for from the local Officer.

Regarding “Galvanised Wire” for Gauhati Industrial Estate and Tinsukia

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

*341. Will the Minister-in-charge of Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Pheros and Company, Tinsukia served a license to import 260 tons of galvanised wire from outside India ?
- (b) Whether 200 tons were meant for Gauhati Industrial Estate and 60 tons for Tinsukia ?
- (c) Who indented this ?
- (d) Whether those wires are at Gauhati now ?
- (e) Whether any complaint has been received by Government that they were sold in black market ?
- (f) Whether the firm has got necessary machineries for production of finished goods ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries) replied :

341. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The party concerned.

(d)—Some portion of the wire have since been consumed in the processing industry at Industrial Estate, Gauhati and Tinsukia. The remaining portion is in their godown at Gauhati.

(e)—No.

(f)—At present they are producing finished goods by manual process with simple machineries pending arrival of the required machineries for which orders have been placed with the National Small Industries Corporation.

Regarding Graduate Teachers' eligibility for posts only in Class II of the Assam School Service

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*342. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that according to the present practice, graduates are eligible for posts only in class II of the Assam School Service except for teaching classical subjects ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that some graduate teachers of Assam School Service, class II after few years of service were allowed to join better posts in other Departments keeping a lien on their posts in the Assam School Service ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that these teachers were out of touch with the Education Department for the last 8 or 10 years ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that these teachers after a long period of absence from their posts in the Education Department were allowed to revert to their posts in the Assam School Service when their promotion fell due on basis of security although they served the Education Department only for a very short while ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that graduates were appointed in Lower School Service cadre till a few years back as vacancies were rare in Assam School Service, Class II taking long years for their absorption in class II of that Service ?

- (f) Why the Service of Graduate teachers serving in the Assam Lower School Service are not counted towards seniority at the time of promotion while graduates directly appointed in class II are allowed the benefit of seniority even though they were absent for a long period from the Department ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that counting of seniority in such manner in favour of persons who did not render any actual service in the School Department and remained outside on their personal benefit causes hardship towards those who are continuing in the Assam School Service faithfully ?
- (h) Whether Government will be pleased to change the existing principle of determining seniority in the Assam School Service and allow the Graduate entrants the benefit of their service in the Assam Lower School Service in respect of seniority for promotion to Class II (Special) and subsequently to Class I ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

342. (a)—Yes, only graduates are eligible for posts in Class II of Assam School Service except for teaching classical subjects.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Information is being collected.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Appointment to Class II are made direct and as such seniority is counted from the date of joining the post in Class II.

(g)—A person is transferred from one Department to another on the ground of public interest.

(h)—The existing policy is working well and Government do not propose to change it.

Co-operative Society's Monopoly System of Procurement of Paddy in Nowgong

Shri DHIRSING DEURI Laharighat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

*343. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government has introduced monopoly system of procurement of paddy in Nowgong District through Co-operative Society ?
- (b) What is the target of procurement in Nowgong District ?
- (c) What quantity of paddy has been procured by the Co-operative Societies upto the end to February 1959 ?
- (d) Whether the Government is satisfied that the monopolist will be able to fulfil the target ?
- (e) What is the total margin inclusive of transport cost allowed to the Co-operative Societies ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the margin allowed to the Societies has been considered very high by the people ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the growers of paddy in Nowgong District is getting one rupee and three annas less per maund of paddy than the growers of other districts due to this arrangement ?
- (h) Whether Government are aware that some Co-operative Societies, have appointed old paddy dealers as their agents to procure paddy for them ?
- (i) Whether this is allowed under rules ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that some of the Societies who have undertaken procurement of paddy were constituted for a different and specific purpose and they had nothing to do with paddy and such Societies have appointed paddy traders as their agents ?
- (k) If the answers to (h) and (j) above are in the negative whether Government will be pleased to make an enquiry into the matter ?
- (l) Whether it is a fact that at the time of introduction of monopoly purchase Government made a declaration that rice to consumers will be supplied at Rs.18 per maund at the time of need?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

343.(a)—Yes, through the Assam Co-operative Apex Marketing Society, Limited.

(b)—The target was originally fixed at 10 lakh maunds and subsequently it has been raised to 16 lakh maunds.

(c)—4,91,256 maunds.

(d)—It is expected that the target may be approximately reached.

(e)—Re.1.25 nP. per maund.

(f)—Government have no such information.

(g)—It is not a fact that the growers of the Nowgong District are getting one rupee three annas less per maund of paddy due to this arrangement. As Nowgong and some other areas fall in Zone No.1 which consist of surplus areas, Government of India have fixed a lower price for the growers than in the other areas. As such they are like some other areas getting 25nP. less than the Zone II.

(h)—Yes. In a few areas which are not covered by Co-operative Societies and in one area, *viz.*, Kampur where the Co-operative Society at first did not agree to procure paddy, individual agents were appointed by the Apex Marketing Society to purchase paddy for them under their control. In some other areas some petty dealers who were thrown out by employment were engaged by the primary societies so that the growers might not suffer.

(i)—Yes, Co-operative Societies can appoint marketing Agents according to their bye-laws.

(j)—Yes, a Society set up for the purpose of Jute-bailing has been allowed by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to undertake marketing of agricultural produce including paddy. This had to be done when the Government of India imposed a ban on the exports of Jute. This Society has appointed four old paddy dealers as transporting agents and not as purchasing sub-agents.

(k)—Does not arise.

(l)—No.

Encroachments in Diroi Forest Reserve

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

*344. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forest be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there have been encroachments in the Diroi Forest Reserve even after repeated eviction?
- (b) If so, what steps have been taken in the matter?
- (c) What is the area cultivated by the encroachers?
- (d) Whether the entire crop of the area was sold in auction?
- (e) If the answer is in the affirmative, what was the amount obtained therefrom?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied :

344. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The encroachers present in the Reserve were handed over to the Police. Offence reports were drawn up and have been sent to Court for trial. Half a section of armed Police has been posted in the Reserve along with Forest guards. As a result all except a few women have left the Reserve.

(c)—About 15 (fifteen) acres.

(d) & (e)—No. Only Rs.5 worth of paddy was sold, the rest being stolen at night.

Rehabilitation in Diroi Forest Reserve

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA asked :

*345. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether some one hundred families from Panidihing Mauza were rehabilitated in Diroi Forest Reserve in 1955-56 or so?
- (b) If so, whether rehabilitation grants and loans were given to all the families?
- (c) Is it a fact that out of the total allottees, some 27 families of Kumar and other communities are not yet getting cultivable land in spite of their repeated prayers?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

345. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No rehabilitation grant is given by the Forest Department.

(c)—Yes. 10 (ten) families remain to be settled for whom attempts are being made to find land.

Improvements of Rajgarh Road communicated to Diroi Forest Reserve

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

*346. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that Rajgarh road is the only important road in the Diroi Forest Reserve running throughout the Reserve from one end to the other, i.e., West to East ?

(b) If it is also a fact that the Forest Villagers of Diroi Forest Reserve are inhabiting along both the sides of the Rajgarh road ?

(c) Whether Government has lately received any representation from the questioner to improve that important road for the benefit of the Forest Villagers as well as the Department concerned ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

346. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

Regarding Belsor Tailoring Co-operative Society, Kamrup

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*347. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Belsor Tailoring Co-operative Society Ltd. (Regd. No. G.110, dated 12th April 1956) in the District of Kamrup lately applied for loan to the Government ?

- (b) If so, when the application was submitted ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the Assistant Co-operative Officer, Nalbari, audited the accounts of the Society from 16th January 1959 to 17th January 1959 and held that for want of fund the Society had to run with great difficulties ?
- (d) If the reply to above (a) be in the affirmative why the amount of loan has not been paid to the Society ?
- (e) When it will be paid ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Cottage Industries) replied :

347. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The application was first submitted to Registrar of Co-operative Societies on 14th August 1956. Subsequently, on 18th March 1957, the application was transferred to the Cottage Industries Department.

(c)—No information has been received as yet in this regard in the Cottage Industries Department.

(d) & (e)—On scrutiny, it appeared that the Society's own resources amounted to Rs.1,041 only. As such the Society's scheme for Rs.20,000 needed revision. A scheme was accordingly drawn up for Rs.9,600 only. This along with the verification of the properties offered as security took time.

Ferry at Silanipamghat

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*348. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that nobody is allowed to cross over the Bharali river by Silanipamghat (within Tezpur Subdivision) after 6 P.M. ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that on 17th March 1959 a lorry (No.ASD-2655) belonging to a rich firm of Jamuguri, was allowed to cross the river at 9 P.M. ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that on the same day three Private Cars (Car Nos.ASD-1999, ASD-2763 and ASK-3469) crossed the river at 8 P.M. ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that three other lorries (ASD-1421, ASD-1493, ASD-738) arrived the ghat on the same day, at 6 P.M., but they were not allowed to cross the river ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the above lorry drivers [mentioned in the question (d)] protested against the discriminating behaviour of the Public Works Department staff posted in the ghat ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that at the instance of the Overseer-in-charge of the ghat, the Departmental Mohorir and labourers of the ghat manhandled the drivers ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that Shri Jiban Chandra Kalita, Joint Secretary, Darrang Motor Workers' Union lodged a protest to the Executive Engineer, Tezpur Division ?
- (h) If so, what steps have been taken by the Government in the matter ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)]
replied :

348. (a) to (h)—Report has been called for from the Divisional Officer.

Alleged slow poisoning of Gauhati population

Shri DWIJESH CHANDRA DEB SARMAH (Digboi)
asked :

*349. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the attention of Government was drawn to the news that appeared in the *Democratic Riview*, dated 7th June 1958, under the caption "Gauhati population allegedly slow-poisoned by the Veterinary Director" ?
- (b) If so, whether enquiry has been made as to the truth of the allegations made therein ?
- (c) Whether any enquiry was made and if so, what was the finding of the enquiry ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied:

349. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes. Director of Veterinary Department passed orders that the meat from goats, slaughtered for manufacturing vaccine might be sold to *bona fide* owners of dogs and poultry who desired to feed their pets with such meat. As a matter of fact, prior assurance was taken from the customers that they would use the meat to feed their pets only. There is no truth in the statement that it was sold in the market for human consumption. Rinderpest is not communicable to dogs or poultry and there is no danger in feeding such animals with this kind of meat.

Creation of new rivers within Kahitema Forest Reserve during 1958

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

*350. Will the Minister-in-charge of Embankment and Drainage be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware about the creation of new rivers at Balajan within Kahitema Forest Reserve during 1958?
- (b) If not, why Government have not enquired into it?
- (c) Whether any Official of the Government visited Balajan within the Kahitema Forest Reserve?
- (d) If so, who are they and on what defect they visited Balajan?
- (e) How many Bunds and how many acres of lands have been destroyed as a result of the creation of this new river?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that there are possibilities if creation of more new rivers and more erosions of no actions are taken before the next rainy season starts?
- (g) Whether any immediate steps will be taken for stopping this new river?
- (h) Whether the Minister-in-charge of Embankment and Drainage, Chief Engineer, Embankment and Drainage will visit this place?
- (i) If so, when?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, Public Works Department (Flood Control Wing)] replied:

350. (a) to (i)—The question was received on 31st March 1959. Information called for from the Divisional Officer are awaited.

Regarding promotion of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

*351. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) The pay scale of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools and whether it was revised in 1956.
- (b) Whether there is any scope of promotion of the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools to next higher category ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to promote a certain percentage of Assistant Sub-Inspectors to the post of Sub-Inspectors ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that dearth of graduate teachers are felt in almost all the Aided High Schools in Assam ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware of the public feeling that one trained and experienced Assistant Sub-Inspector can inspect and guide Primary Schools better than most graduates fresh from university without training ?
- (f) What is the present proposal of the Government regarding the posts of Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

351. (a)—Pay scales of Assistant Sub-Inspectors are—
For Matric Normal and Intermediate passed
Rs.75—3—105—4—125.

For Normal or Matriculate Rs.60—4—80—4—
100—5—125.

In addition a House rent allowance of Rs.15 per mensem. Yes, it was revised in 1956.

(b) No. Unless they acquire a degree.

(c) There is no proposal. Since the pay scales are based on qualification such promotion even if allowed will not mean any material gain.

(d)—Yes, but the position is gradually improving.

(e)—Government do not think so. While there are exceptions, our experience on the whole, is that graduates because of their higher academic attainment are much suitable for inspection of Primary Schools. Besides, they generally have a broader outlook and are capable of examining problem in proper perspective.

(f)—We have not created any new posts of Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools recently and it is not contemplated to create them in near future.

Organisation of Gobordhana Rindan Samabay Samity at Kalapani

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*352. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether a meeting was held on 22nd July 1958 at Kalapani Bazar to organise the Gobordhana Rindan Samabay Samity ?
- (b) If so, whether local M. L. A., P. E. O., Gobordhana N. E. S. Block and D. C. O., Barpeta Road were present in the meeting ?
- (c) Who was the President in that meeting ?
- (d) Whether the said meeting decided to organise a society to be named as Gobordhana Mouza Rindan Samabay Samity with its headquarters at Kalapani Bazar ?
- (e) Whether a letter was sent by Shri Akshoy Kumar Das, President, Barpeta D. C. C. to the Government not to register the said society ?
- (f) If so, what are exact contents of that letter ?
- (g) Whether the Divisional Co-operative Officer, Barpeta Road organised another society on a subsequent date under the name and style of 'Gobordhana Rindan Samabay Samity' with its headquarters at Gobordhana and this society was registered although the registration of former was pending ?
- (h) If so, whether the registration of the 'Gobordhana' Rindan Samabay Samity' with its headquarters at Gobordhana will be cancelled ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

352 (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar, M.L.A.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes. A letter purported to have been written by Shri Akshoy Kumar Das was received.

(f)—The contents of the said letter are—

“A large scale Co-operative Society has been submitted for registration, before the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Society. This society has been styled as Gobordhana Large Scale Credit Society. It is in Barpeta, but there has been several protests against this formation regarding both the Executive as well as the proposed headquarter, I understand it has been so proposed at the insistence of the opposition M. L. A., Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar. In my opinion registration should be stayed and fresh report should be called for reformation of the executive as well as the selection of the head-quarters by calling a fresh meeting of the shareholders.

(g)—Yes. The former Society could not be registered due to certain organisational defects.

(h)—No. Unless members decide to send the Samity into liquidation or its working condition demands that it should be sent into liquidation.

Regarding loan through Co-operative Society (Gaolia Bank) for Cultivators

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*353. (a) Whether Government are aware or received information to the effect that good number of agriculturists in Assam who obtained short term loan either through the Co-operative Societies (Gaolia Bank) or through the Land Mortgage Banks have lately lost their belonging including cattle, plough implements, ornaments and landed properties for failure of payments of loan in time?

(b) Whether Government is aware of the main reasons for their failure to repay the loan?

(c) If so, what are those?

(d) If not, whether Government propose to make an enquiry to that effect?

*354. (a) Whether it is a fact that the loan sanctioned to the individual loanee through respective Co-operative Societies (Gaolia Bank) is mainly for the purpose of helping agriculturists?

(b) Whether it is a fact that short-term loan, so sanctioned, is only for a period of one year ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that unless a loanee obtains short-term loan (in the first stage) he is neither given medium-term loan nor long-term loan ?

(d) Whether Government is aware that none of such loanee is benefitted by any loan unless the loan is received long before the season of sowing and transplantation ?

(e) Whether there is any time limit during which generally the loan is sanctioned ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Co-operative) replied :

353. (a)—No. Government have no such information. The Land Mortgage Banks do not issue short-term loan.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—The Government may take up enquiries if specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government.

354. (a)—Yes. The short-term loan is meant to help the agriculturists in getting increased production from land by enabling them to carry on the different agricultural operations.

(b)—Yes. The maximum period that may be allowed for repayment of loan is one year.

(c)—No.

(d)—No. In fact, there is every likelihood of the loan being misused if the same is issued long before the season of sowing and transplantation.

(e)—No.

Regarding General Meeting of the Assam Central Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Limited

Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*355. Will the Minister, Co-operation be pleased to state—

(a) When was the Assam Central Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Ltd. registered and what is the composition of its Administrative Council ?

(b) Whether the General Meeting of the Registered Co-operatives are to be held annually ?

(c) How many times such annually general meeting of the said Land Mortgage Bank have been held so far since its start ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Co-operative) replied :

355. (a)—Registered on 2nd September 1955.

Under bye-laws 8(1) of the Society the composition of the Administrative Council of the society stands as stated hereunder—

(i) The Minister for Co-operative Societies who shall be the Chairman.

(ii) One Vice-Chairman to be elected by the General Assembly.

(iii) The Registrar or his representative.

(iv) One representative from the Department of Finance.

(v) One representative from the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd.

(vi) One elected by the General Assembly from among the Central Co-operative Banks functioning as agents of the Bank.

(vii) Four elected by the Mortgage Bank from amongst the representatives of the Land Mortgage Bank, one from each of the four zones in which the area of the Bank is divided for this purpose.

(viii) Two elected by the other members of the Bank.

(ix) The Managing Director who shall also be the Treasurer.

In all 21 members.

(x) At present the Bank is functioning with 21 nominated members of the Administrative Council under bye-laws 8(2)-(c) with the following members—

(1) The Minister-in-charge of Co-operation, etc.—Chairman.

(2) The Deputy Minister, Co-operation, etc.—Vice-Chairman.

(3) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Assam or his representative.

(4) The Secretary to the Government of Assam, in Finance Department, Shillong or his representative.

(5) The representative of the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd., Shillong.

(6) The representative of the Assam Co-operative Sugar Mills Ltd., Baruaabamungaon, Golaghat.

(7) The representative of the Assam State Co-operative Union Ltd., Gauhati.

- (8) The representative of the Kamrup Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., Gauhati.
- (9) The representative of the Nowpong Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., Nowgong.
- (10) The representative of the Jorhat Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Jorhat.
- (11) The representative of the Nowgong Central Co-operative Banking Union Ltd., Nowgong.
- (12) The representative of the Tezpur Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Tezpur.
- (13) The representative of the Cachar Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Silchar.
- (14) The representative of the Goalpara District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Dhubri.
- (15) The Managing Director, Assam Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., Gauhati.
- (16) Shri Girish Chandra Sarma, Laban, Shillong.
- (17) Shri Mohi Kanta Das, Goalpara.
- (18) Shri Romesh Ch. Choudhury, Advocate, Gauhati.
- (19) Shri Nihar Laskar, B.L., Silchar.
- (20) Smta. Padmakumari Gohain, M.L.A., Dibrugarh.
- (21) Shri Khan Shib Muhammad Sayed, Tezpur.

(a)—Yes.

(b)—Not even once. The first annual general meeting is proposed to be held in the last part of April 1959.

Regarding Bund from Haledibari to Basamaria at Ratanpur Jorhat

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

*356. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

- (a) What was the estimated amount of the Retirement Bund from Halodibari to Basamaria at Ratanpur (Majuli, Jorhat) in 1958?
- (b) When the tender was invited?
- (c) How many contractors have submitted tenders for this work?
- (d) What were the different rates mentioned in the tenders by different contractors?
- (e) Who got the contract?
- (f) Whether he has got the whole contract against so many local contractors at equal or less rates?
- (g) If so, why?

- (h) What percentage of work has been completed by him up-till now ?
- (i) On what work the Bill No.FF/149T of 17th February 1959 amounting to Rs.20,966.75 nP. was paid to the contractor ?
- (j) When the work order of this work was issued to him ?
- (k) When the work was completed ?
- (l) When the measurement was taken and recorded ?
- (m) When the Sectional Officer submitted the Bill ?
- (n) Who has checked the Bill ?
- (o) When the money was paid ?
- (p) At what rate the payment was made ?
- (q) Whether that was the lowest tendered rate ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, Public Works Department (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied:

356. (a)—Rs.27,000.

(b)—Tenders were first invited on 17th October 1958, but as the rates quoted were very high, fresh tenders were invited on 7th January 1959.

(c)—Two contractors submitted tenders on the first instance and thirteen contractors submitted tenders on the second instance.

(d)—On the first instance rates quoted for earth work were Rs.35 and Rs.75 per thousand cubic feet. Rates quoted on the second instance are as follows—

Group No.1—Rs.38, Rs.40, Rs.50, Rs.38, Rs.41 and Rs.35.

Group No.2—Rs.32, Rs.35, Rs.35, Rs.50 Rs.50,
Rs.50 and Rs.55.

(e) Shri Dharam Dev Prasad Gupta.

(f) The entire work was allotted to him at a rate less than the rates quoted by the local contractors.

(g) From the previous year's experience he was considered most suitable amongst the tenders for the difficult work which involved earth work in wet and submerged soil.

(h)—Sixty per cent.

(i)—This was paid to Shri Dharam Dev Prasad Gupta for work done by him in the same Ratanpur Retirement during the previous working season.

(j)—24th April 1958.

(k)—Earth work completed on 26th May 1958 and Turfing on 29th June 1958.

(l)—Final measurement for earth work taken on 27th May 1958 and 28th May 1958. Final measurement for turfing taken on 29th June 1958.

(m)—17th February 1959.

(n)—The bill was not checked by Executive Engineer or Subdivisional Officer.

(o)—On 19th February 1959.

(p)—Rupees 33 per thousand cubic feet of earth work. Extra Rs.3-8-0 per thousand cubic feet of earth work in wet soil and Rs.2 per 100 cubic feet of earth work involving lead of every hundred feet beyond the initial lead of hundred feet.

(q)—The lowest tendered rate was Rs.78 per thousand cubic feet of earth work, extra Rs.7 per thousand cubic feet of earth work in wet soil and Rs.6 per hundred cubic feet of earth work involving lead of every hundred feet beyond the initial lead of hundred feet. The rate given to the contractor mentioned in reply to question (p) was fixed by the Superintending Engineer as the most reasonable rate under circumstances.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Regarding break-down of State Transport Vehicles

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

451. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport Department be pleased to state—

(a) How many diesel driven buses are running under the Department at present ?

(b) How many petrol driven buses are running under the Department at present ?

(c) How many artisans of the Department are trained to handle diesel vehicles and how many are not (to be stated Subdivision-wise).

452. (a) Whether Government are aware that break-down of a large number of State Transport buses while running on routes take place thus causing immense trouble to the passengers ?

(b) What was the number of such break-down during the half of 1958 ?

(c) What steps Government have taken to avoid such break-down ?

453. (a) Why the employees of the State Transport Department cannot enjoy weekly rest day as yet in spite of Government assurance ?

(b) Whether it is due to shortage of hands ?

(c) If so, why such assurance was given ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

451. (a)—Two hundred and ninety-one Vehicles.

(b)—Fifty-eight Vehicles.

(c)—A list is placed in the Library table.

452. (a)—Mechanical break-down of the vehicles enroute cannot be altogether avoided. Percentage of break-down is, however, low.

(b)—Four hundred and ninety-six in 38,13,660 miles.

(c)—Break-down of vehicles en route cannot altogether be avoided, but the percentage of break-down was very low 1·8, 1·7, 1·2 and 1·4 in every 10,000 miles during 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58 respectively.

Workshops have been set up at Gauhati, Shillong, Jorhat, Tezpur, Dhubri and Silchar besides Maintenance Centres at Nowgong, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Mangaldoi, North Lakhimpur, Goalpara and Gauhati.

Moreover, there are Mechanics at all important Stations and Sub-Stations at Chapar, Bongaigaon, Jogighopa, Dhupdhara, Silghat, Bokakhat, Dergaon, Golaghat, Tinsukia, Doom-Dooma, Biswanath, Charali, Rangapara, Dhekiajuli, North-Gauhati, etc.

453. (a)—Weekly rest is enjoyed by all the employees of the State Transport.

All the State Transport Officers are being impressed again to see that all State Transport staff are allowed to enjoy weekly rest day.

(b)—New hands (45 Lower Division Assistants, 30 Conductors and 166 Class IV staff) have been appointed with effect from 1st January 1959 to provide for this.

(c)—Does not arise. If, however, specific cases are cited, they will be looked into.

Recruitment to the Assam Civil Service Class I and II

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

454. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—
- The total number of persons recruited to the Assam Civil Service Class I and Class II, year by year, since 1950 till to date (both classes separately) ?
 - The total number of persons from the district of Lakhimpur with home address who were appointed to Assam Civil Service I and II, year by year, since 1950 till to date (both classes separately) showing the tribals and non-tribals separately ?
 - What is the reason for the small number of recruitment of non-tribal candidates to Assam Civil Service I and II from the district of Lakhimpur ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education for Chief Minister) replied :

454. (a) & (b)—Two statements are laid on the Table. (please see Library Register No. s. 108)

(c)—Appointments are made on the results of competitive examinations conducted by the Assam Public Service Commission and not on district basis.

Number of Venture Lower Primary School in Dibrugarh Subdivision and Government Grants for the same

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked:

455. (a) Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to furnish a list of Venture Lower Primary Schools in Dibrugarh Subdivision yet to be taken over by the School Board ?
- (b) Whether Government propose to sanction necessary grants to enable the Board to take over these schools with immediate effect ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied

455. (a)—A list is placed on the Library Table. (please see Library Register No. s. 108)

(b)—The case of each school will be examined by the School Board concerned on merit.

**Requisition of Grant Nos. 198/196 and 199/197 of
Phukanbari T. E. for flood and earthquake
affected people**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

456. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Grant Nos. 196 and 197 or other grants of Phukanbari Tea Estate in Kheremia Mauza in Naharkatia Circle were requisitioned for landless cultivators ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Sub-Deputy Collector, Naharkatia Circle gave them possession in 1953 or so, clearly demarcating the boundaries of the land in question ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that about 135 families paid revenue or premium in the year 1955 for these lands in the office of the Sub-Deputy Collector, Dibrugarh ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that certain families also paid revenue or premium to Government in 1956-57 for some of these lands ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that some of these lands were under the occupation of the cultivators since 1941 or before and that the owner and the tea planter, had been realising rent regularly granting receipts since 1944 till 1952 ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the proprietor of the said Tea Company is realising rent even now but no receipt is given for the same ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that Government granted land and gave possession to 166 earthquake and flood devastated families and to other landless persons in Grant Nos. 196 and 197 of Phukanbari Tea Estate ?

- (h) Whether Government are aware or received complaints to the effect that the proprietor of Phukanbari Tea Estate now and then engages his Chowkidars and other persons to take away forcibly crops and other property belonging to these cultivators ?
- (i) Whether Government are aware that the Police have been informed about the action of the proprietor of Phukanbari Tea Estate ?
- (j) If so, what are the allegations made by the people to the Officer-in-charge of Bordubi Police Station and what is the result of the Police investigation ?
- (k) Whether Government are aware of the difficulties of the cultivators and tenants who are occupying land in different grants of Phukanbari Tea Estate ?
- (l) Whether Government proposed to take necessary steps to save these people from the harassment of this tea planter as stated above ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

456. (a)—Yes, an area of 1,500 bighas more or less were requisitioned from Grant Nos. 198/196 and 199/197 of Phukanbari Tea Estate in 1953 for flood and earthquake affected people but subsequently the land was derequisitioned on appeal.

(b)—No. Sub-Deputy Collector simply pointed out the boundaries to the persons at the time of submission of proposal ; but no allotment was made.

(c) & (d)—No. It is not a fact. The grant No. 198/196 and 199/197 mentioned at (a) above of Phukanbari Tea Estate falls under Naharkatia Circle and no Revenue or premium could be realised in Dibrugarh Circle. But 995B-3K-15L of grant No. 197/195 of the Tea Estate falling within Dibrugarh Eastern Circle were also requisitioned and allotted to 134 families of whom only 92 paid compensation.

(e)—An area of about 500 bighas of land had been in occupation of some landless cultivators since 1941 on payment of rent to the garden authority who issued receipt for the same.

(f)—The proprietor realises rent from the occupants and issue receipts for the same.

(g)—No, it is not a fact. The land was derequisitioned and no allotment was made.

(h)—Government have no such information ; but it is learned that having heard about the requisition proposal some people occupied some lands of the Tea Estate without any authority from Government or from the Tea Estate. The proprietor wanted to oust these persons, 3 criminal cases have been filed which are now pending.

(i) & (j)—Sri M.C. Das, M.L.A., on 8th December 1957 lodged a complaint to O/C., Bordubi P. S. stating that Sri Damudar Phukan of Matiakhanagaon was assaulted by one Hukum Singh, an employee of Phukanbari Tea Estate. Police investigated the case and submitted final report as non-cognizable under section 323 I. P. C.

(k)—Government have no such information.

(l)—Necessary action will be taken by the appropriate authority, if the parties approach.

Duties and Functions of the Superintendents and Registrars of Civil and Public Works Department Secretariat

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

457. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the duties and functions allotted to the office Superintendents in the Secretariat both Civil and Public Works Department and in the offices of the Heads of Departments in Shillong ?
- (b) What are the duties and functions allotted to the Registrars in the Secretariat both Civil and Public Works Department ?
- (c) What is the number of dealing Assistants directly under each of them ?
- (d) Whether there is any justification for their retention any longer ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

457. (a)—The duties and functions allotted to office Superintendents in the Secretariat (Civil) and (Public Works Department) and in the offices of the Heads of Departments as well are to exercise general supervision of the Departments or Branches in their charge. They are also entrusted with works of routine nature on behalf of their superior officers.

(b)—Under Rules 5 and 96 of the Assam Secretariat Manual, the Registrars in the Civil and Public Works Department Secretariat are required to deal with all matters connected with the management, smooth running and discipline of the Secretariat—Civil and Public Works Department respectively. They are generally the channels of communication between the office and the officers in all matters effecting office management.

(c)—The total number of dealing Assistants in the Civil Secretariat is 695 and in Public Works Department Secretariat is 158.

(d)—The post of Registrar, Civil Secretariat has been kept in abeyance for the last few years and there is one Assistant Secretary to Government in the Secretariat Administration Department who has been entrusted among other things, with the work formerly dealt with by the Registrar. There is a Registrar in the Public Works Department Secretariat and the circumstances under which that post was created still continue to exist.

Regarding taking over by Government of Lower Primary Schools of Barpeta Subdivision

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

458. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Lower Primary Schools of (1) Katazar, (2) Sorbhog Town, (3) Maunabari, (4) Bhatarmari, (5) Khalihaguri, (6) Chengmari, (7) Bagriguri Pathar, (8) Borongabori and (9) Kalpari Bazar Schools in Barpeta Subdivision have been taken up by the Government?

(b) If not, why not?

- (c) When they were started ?
- (d) When these Schools will be taken up by the Government ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that Bhatarmari Venture Lower Primary School was demolished according to the order of Government while evicting people of Bhatarmari V. G. R. ?
- (f) Whether the Minister-in-charge of Medical visited the School on 21st April, 1958 ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that this was destroyed on the next day ?
- (h) Who destroyed this School and what is the name of the Officer who was in charge of eviction ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that this School had an ideal farm to which Gobordhona N. E. S. Block gave a loan of Rs.2,000 (two thousand) ?
- (j) Whether this loan will be written off and compensation be given to the people ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

458 (a) to (j)—The informations are being collected.

Construction of bridge on the river Singhijan in Halem Mouza

Shri BISHNU LAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur) asked :

459. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Why the bridge on the river Singhijan in Halem Mouza remains still pending in spite of the Budget provision ?
- (b) What arrangement has been made for vehicular traffic to continue in the rainy season when this river is in spate ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Singhijan Public Works Department Road is the only means of communication of the neighbouring tea gardens and public near the foot of the hills ?

- (d) Whether Government will be pleased to pay special attention to this very important question of public interest and take up the work of constructing the bridge at any cost next year?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied :

459. (a)—The work is included in the 2nd Five Year Plan. The provision in the Plan and Budget was made on the basis of rough estimate. On preparation of detailed estimate the provision has been found to be insufficient due to increase in the length of the bridge by 20 ft. This has necessitated arrangement of additional fund of Rs. 14,800 involving revised approval.

(b)—Traffic is maintained by means of Sub-ways. Although the river is turbulent, the flood water recedes within two to three hours.

(c)—Yes it is one of the main outlets, the neighbouring tea gardens, have got an outlet through Halem Tea Estate.

(d)—Government have already paid attention to this matter and are taking necessary steps to finalise the project and to start the work.

Pay scale of Primary Panchayat Secretaries in the State

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

460. Will the Minister, Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) What is the scale of pay fixed for the Secretaries of the Primary Panchayats in the State of Assam?

(b) Whether it is a fact that some Secretaries are drawing Rs. 50 and some Rs. 25 per month?

(c) If so, why?

(d) Whether it is a fact that Government has been approached by the Primary Panchayat Secretaries with memorandum, to this effect?

(e) Whether Government will be pleased to remove this disparity in pay of the Secretaries of the same category and abide by the directive principle of the Indian Constitution, i. e., 'equal pay for equal work' at the earliest ?

(f) If so, whether Government propose to allow the Secretaries to draw equal pay with retrospective effect ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge, Rural Development) replied:

460. (a) & (b)—Rs.50 per month fixed for those appointed after 1955-56 and Rs. 25 per month fixed for those appointed earlier.

(c)—The original pay before beginning of the Second Five Year Plan was Rs.25 per month fixed. But at the instance of the Planning Commission the pay of the Primary Panchayat Secretaries for those Panchayats formed during the Second Five Year Plan was fixed at Rs. 50 per month.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Government have already agreed to equalise the pay of all the Primary Panchayat Secretaries at Rs. 50 per month fixed with effect from 1st January 1959.

(f)—Does not arise.

Regarding a Naga raid in Sildubi village

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

461. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that in the latter part of 1958, a Naga raid took place at Sildubi village ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the raiders are Naga National Guards of the Central Government who were in uniforms ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that the raiders first visited the Military Camp situated near the Sildubi village ?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that when the raiders entered the Sildubi village the villagers being frightened reported the matter to the Military Officer-in-charge of the camp who refused to help the villagers and asked them to go to the Borhola Police Outpost which is at a distance of three miles ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the raiders stayed for the night at the village and looted money materials and poultry from the villagers even on the next day ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that an elephant owned by a villager was taken away by the raiders and the owner has released the elephant by paying Rs.100 to the raiders ?
- (g) Who the Military could not be availed of by the villagers ?

462. (a) Whether Government are aware that the looted money as stated in Question 461 (e) were deposited to the Central Government Authority by the raiders when it was found that Naga National Guards looted in the border village of Sildubi ?

(b) Whether Government propose to take necessary steps to turn the money value of the looted properties to the affected families of Sildubi village ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied :

461. (a)—Yes, on the 25th and 26th October 1958.

(b)—They belonged to the Naga Village Guards.

(c)—They visited the Gorjan B. O. P., which is manned by the 1st Assam Police Battalion. It is not a Military camp.

(d)—Two villagers reported the incident to the Platoon Commander of the Gorjan B. O. P. It appears that one complainant was directed to Borhola Police Outpost.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—The Platoon Commander of the Gorjan B. O. P. has been degraded for not taking timely action in spite of receiving information of the raid.

462. (a)—It is reported that some looted articles were deposited with Naga Hills-Tuensang Area authorities in Mokochung district.

(b)—Ten cases have been registered by Police and these are under investigation.

Regarding the damaged Bhalukadoba cold weather bridge

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbog) asked:

463. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R.&B.) be pleased to state—

(a) When the work for construction of the Bhalukadoba cold weather bridge was completed?

(b) What was the expenditure for construction of the bridge?

(c) What was the rate given to the Contractor?

(d) Whether it is a fact that a truck fell down into the river on 20th January, 1959 when the bridge crushed down?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the P. W. D. Minister drove over the bridge himself taking great risk of his life after the bridge was repaired?

(f) Why the bridge was passed by the Department and final bill paid without proper scrutiny of the works of the said bridge?

(g) Who is responsible for this?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R.&B.)] replied:

463. (a)—On 6th December, 1958.

(b)—Rupees 9,464.

(c)—(i) Rupees 18 per Rft. for the Bridge proper.

(ii) Rupees 18 per thousand Cft. for earth work in the approaches.

(iii) Rupees 1.50 per Rft. for bamboo pallisadings to retain earth work on the approaches.

(d)—No. But a truck (No. ASK-2673) loaded with goods weighing about 120 mds. (approximately) crossed over the bridge without unloading and ignoring all caution signs and damaged the bridge considerably.

(e)—After necessary repairs to the bridge by then.

(f) & (g)—On subsequent examination some constructional defects were noticed on the bridge and the contractor was made to rectify the same and get the bridge restored at his own cost. However, the reason for the damage to the bridge is not due to these minor constructional defects but is actually due to the crossing of the overloaded truck and to some extent due to scouring of the sandy river bed by the strong current. As regards the defects mentioned above, the matter is under investigation and due action will be taken against the officer/officers found at fault for the same.

Requisitioned of land at Bawnai and Dhuturamari for indigenous landless and displaced persons

Shri TAMIZUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri) asked :

464. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that 1,500 bighas of land which is known as “Tung garden area” under Gossaigaon Sub-Deputy Collector Circle in the District of Goalpara, had been acquired by the Government in order to distribute them amongst the deserving landless people ?

(b) If so, under what principles the above mentioned lands have been distributed ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that one Committee was constituted in order to effect the distribution ?

- (d) If so, who are the members of the Committee and under whose directions the Committee was constituted ?
- (e) Whether the Brahmaputra erosion affected landless people got any land there ?
- (f) Who are the persons to whom the above lands were distributed ?
- (g) Whether the landless people of Kolapakani, Kaim Bhasari, Bhogdagra, etc., had obtained any share of that land ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that some people having land elsewhere have obtained portion of the above lands and that the deserving landless people were fully deprived of the above lands ?
- (i) Why the cases of deserving people were not carefully considered ?
- (j) Whether Government propose to provide land to the landless people who applied for land in the Tung garden area, elsewhere ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

464. (a)—An area of 1,453Bs. 3Ks. 11Ls. of land at Bawnai and Dhuturamari under Tung gardens was requisitioned for allotment to indigenous landless and displaced persons.

(b)—Allotment of land is in progress. The general principle adopted is that 50 per cent of the allottees would be displaced persons and the other 50 per cent local and indigenous landless people from a locality within 3 miles from the requisitioned land. No person is to get more than 8Bs. of land and the case of those already having less than 4Bs. of land would be considered preference being given to Co-operatives of landless people.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The members of the Committee are as follows :

1. Sub-Deputy Collector, Gossaigaon.
2. Shri B. C. Pradhani, M.L.A., Golokganj.
3. Shri M. Tudu, M.L.A., Gossaigaon.
4. Shri P. C. Barua, M.L.A., Gauripur.
5. Special Relief and Rehabilitation Officer, Goalpara, Dhubri.
6. President, Dingdinga Rural Panchayat.
7. President, Gossaigaon Rural Panchayat.

The Committee was constituted under Deputy Commissioner's direction.

(e)—No.

(f)—The list can be furnished only when the allotment is completed.

(g)—No.

(h)—No. Cases of all those for whom the land was requisitioned were duly considered. As already stated above, the land in question was not requisitioned for any and every landless person. Only such deserving cases are being considered.

(i)—Does not arise.

(j)—There is no bar to their applying for land elsewhere, but settlement can be given only according to Law and the General Land Policy of Government.

Establishment of Venture School at Bar Dhadum by public, its present enrolment and necessary grants of Government

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

465. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a Venture Lower Primary School known as Bar Dhadum Lower Primary School has been established by the public in Saikhowa Mauza, Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the School is situated in a tribal village and the present enrolment is 63 ?

(c) Whether Government propose to sanction necessary grants to enable the School Board to take over the School ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

465. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The case of the School will be considered along with the other Schools when grants for taking over Venture School is sanctioned.

Staff and enrolment of Kashijan Lower Primary School and necessary enquiry of Government regarding the withdrawal of 2nd teacher of the same Institution

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

466. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Kashijan Lower Primary School in Saikhowa Mauza (Dibrugarh) was a 2 teachers school with enrolment of about 70 students ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the vacancy of the second teacher was withdrawn with effect from 1st September, 1958 although there was no fall in enrolment ?
- (c) Whether any proper enquiry was made to justify the withdrawal of the vacancy of the 2nd teacher ?
- (d) Whether Government received complaints against the circle Sub-Inspector who was alleged to have been acting whimsically ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to direct the Deputy Inspector to enquire personally and hear the public allegations ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

466. (a), (b), (c) (d) & (e)—Reports are being called for.

Loan sanctioned for various Cottage Industries, Barpeta Subdivision

Shri MAHADEB DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

467. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) How much loan was sanctioned to the various Cottage Industries in the Barpeta Subdivision in the year of 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that innumerable applications for such loan are still lying without any final decision ?
- (c) If so, what is the numbers of such applications ?
- (d) When the undecided loan of applications will be disposed ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

467. (a)—*Cottage Industries Department*: In 1956-57 Rs.1,92,372 was sanctioned to Barpeta Subdivision. This amount includes a sum of Rs.1,83,922 paid to the Sarthebari, Bellmetal and Utensil manufacturing Society.

In 1957-58—Rs.15,700.

Sericulture and Weaving Department: (a) Nil.

(b)—*Cottage Industries Department*: 57 cases relating to Cottage Industries and 123 relating to Sericulture and Weaving are pending.

(c)—as at (b) above.

(d)—*Cottage Industries Department*: They are under various stages of disposal. The cases have been held up largely because of—

- (1) inadequate information furnished by the applicants.
- (2) want of proper workable schemes.
- (3) delay in receiving verification reports from the various local officers.

- (4) 13 cases out of 57 relating to Cottage Industries Branch have since been sanctioned.
- (5) The rest are awaiting verification reports from the District Officers.

Sericulture and Weaving Department: The reasons as stated at 1,2,3 (d) above.

Repairing works of Barpeta Civil Hospital

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

468. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that double measurement of the cement work was done during 1958-59 while doing special repairing works of Barpeta Civil Hospital ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Executive Engineer wrote in the bills that after proper enquiry the bills would be passed ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that Bills for payment were held up for several months and if so, why ?
- (d) What was the total number of Bags of cement issued for the work and how many bags were utilised and who were the Contractors ?
- (e) Whether the Executive Engineer or the Technical Branch of Public Works Department put objections for the works on the ground of double measurement ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied:

468. (a)—No, this is not a fact.

(b)—This is not a fact.

(c)—Yes, some bills could not be passed for payment immediately for getting clarification on some points regarding issue and utilisation of materials.

(d)—The total number of bags of cement issued—225

The total number of bags of cement utilized—297.

Names of the Contractors:—

1. Shri Dharanidhar Choudhury.
2. Shri Binode Kumar Choudhury.
3. Shri Paresch Chandra Barua.
4. Shri Achyntananda Das.
5. Shri Ananta Ram Das.

(e)—No.

Regarding Criminal Cases, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

469. Will the Minister-in-charge of Judicial be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that due to heavy pressure of executive works at Dibrugarh, criminal cases are left undisposed of since 1957 or earlier?
- (b) Whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of criminal cases that are pending at Dibrugarh court which were instituted in 1958, 1957, 1956, and 1955 and earlier than 1955 year by year?
- (c) Whether Government will be pleased to classify the Police cases and complaint cases and show them separately as asked in (b) above?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education for Minister, Judicial) replied:

469. (a), (b) & (c)—The informations have been called for.

Regarding one Office Assistant in Barnagar Circle Office, Barpeta

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

470. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether in Barnagar Circle Office within Barpeta Subdivision one Office Assistant is working in the same branch for more than three years and if so, why ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that according to rules office assistant should not be kept in the same branch for more than three years ?
- (c) If so, whether Government will be pleased to consider the matter early ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

470. (a)—It is a fact that one Office Assistant is working in Barnagar Circle Office for more than three years in the interest of public service.

- (b) There is no such rule; but usual practice is not to keep an assistant in one branch for too long a period.
- (c)—Yes, the matter will be considered.

Regarding Court Building and Deputy Commissioner's Office of Tezpur

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Bardholla) asked :

471. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that the Tezpur Court Building is too inadequate to accommodate all the offices of the Deputy Commissioner ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that some offices are run in the Verandahs of the Court building within Bamboodharis enclosures ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that Judicial Minister, while visiting the Tezpur Bar Library during his last tour of Tezpur Subdivision saw these Dharccovered offices in the verandah of the Court building ?

- (d) Whether Government propose to take necessary steps for reconstruction or extension of the Court building so that all Offices of the Deputy Commissioner at Tezpur may be conveniently accommodated ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

471. (a) to (d)—Information have been called for.

Sali Crop damage caused by the River Solengi in Gohpur Mauza

Shri BISHNU LAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur) asked:

472. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

- (a) What was the extent of damage of the Sali crop done by the Solengi River in Gohpur Mouza last year ?
- (b) In how many points and directions the river diverted its course last year ?
- (c) Whether Government have lately received a letter from Shri B. C. Bhagawati, M. P. requesting early steps for canalising the water and save cultivators from trouble ?
- (d) Whether any officer of the Department has ever visited this area and submitted his report to Government for doing the needful ?
- (e) Whether Government will enquire into the matter and take steps to remove this trouble immediately ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department (Flood Control)] replied :

472. (a)—Sali crops in an area of about 900 acres were damaged to some extent by last year's flood.

(b)—Nowhere the river diverted from its main course during last floods but at two points flood spills escaped through low areas with high velocity causing disposition of sand in the adjoining fields.

(c)—No such letter appears to have been received by the Public Works Department (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing).

(d)—Yes. A preliminary investigation of the problems has already been carried out.

(e)—The scheme has not been included in any of the programmes under the Second Five Year Plan, and due to limitation of funds there is no scope for its implementation during the remaining period of the 2nd Plan.

Regarding Co-operative Societies (Goanlia Banks) in the State and loan for the Societies

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbarri-West) asked:

473. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operation be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of co-operative Societies (Goanlia Banks) formed and registered throughout the State till to date?
- (b) The number of such Co-operative (Goanlia Banks) under the Nalbari Central Bank?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that a good number of Co-operative Societies (Goanlia Bank) under Nalbari Central Bank has not received any loan so far?
- (d) If so, what are the names of those Societies?
- (e) When the loan will be sanctioned to these Societies?
- (f) If the reply to (e) is in affirmative please state, when?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied:

473. (a)—3702 Societies were formed and registered up to 1st March, 1959.

(b)—181.

(c)—Only eleven Goanlia Banks have not received loans in Nalbari Central Bank Limited.

(d)—(1) Murara Goanlia Banks (2) Borkhola Goanlia Banks (3) Jaganath Goanlia Banks (4) Barbhora Goanlia Banks (5) Milon Goanlia Banks (6) Chilling Goanlia Banks (7) Matangapar Goanlia Banks (8) Chapatal Goanlia Banks (9) Barkuriha Goanlia Banks (10) Kalag Goanlia Banks (11) Baridatara Goanlia Banks.

(e)—If the Societies apply for loans and if they are eligible, the loans may be sanctioned by the Nalbari Central Banking Union. The Central Banking Union may give loan from their own funds or money borrowed from the Assam Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd. Government has no hand in the matter. It all depends with the Central Bank. So, the Government cannot say when loans will be sanctioned to these Societies.

(f)—Does not arise in view of what is stated in (e) above.

Number of acquisition cases including embankment in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

474. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) The number of acquisition cases for public purposes including embankment and others pending in Sibsagar subdivision since January, 1957 ?

(b) How many of the above cases have since been considered favourable, how many are lying pending ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

474. (a)—135 cases pending since January, 1957 as detailed below:—

13 cases pending for Government sanction.

3 „ pending in reference cases.

18 „ for correction of record and delivery of formal possession.

20 „ for submission of final report.

- 20 cases for submission of Award Statement.
- 8 „ for allotment of fund for interim payment.
- 10 „ for allotment of fund from Executive Engineer (Embankment and Drainage) Department.
- 28 „ for recasting of revised estimate.
- 5 „ for confirmation by Government.
- 10 „ preliminary stage.

(b)—All the cases can be stated to be favourable for the requiring authorities except for the 10 cases pending in the preliminary stage where objections, etc., are to be heard from the interested persons. The stages in which the other cases are pending have been enumerated at 474 (a) above.

Regarding halting allowances of Mandals of North Lakhimpur

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

475. Will the Minister in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that about 16 lot Mandals of North Lakhimpur did not receive their halting allowances from the year 1948 to 1956 amounting to above Rs.3,000 in total ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Government directed the Mandals to submit Fresh Bills in November 1957 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Mandals applied in June 1958 also to the Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur as well as to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur ?
- (d) Why such unusual delay has been caused in paying the travelling allowance bills of the Mandals ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

475. (a) to (d)—Report has been called for from the Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur on 25th March, 1959.

Expenditure for the development of Cottage Industries, Assam

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked:

476. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

(a) The total amount of money so far spent for the development of Cottage Industries in forms of grants and loans since the scheme of giving grant and loan was introduced?

(b) Whether any assessment has been made regarding the increase of production in various Cottage Industries?

(c) If not, whether Government will be pleased to evaluate the results of this expenditure?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

476. (a)—During the period 1947-48 to 1958-59 an amount of Rs.23,15,230 was given as loan and Rs.7,16,969 was given as grants-in-aid during the period from 1951-52 to 1958-59.

(b)—No detailed assessment has been made regarding such increase of production.

(c)—Through periodical inspections, it is sought to ensure that the loans and grants given are utilised for the purpose for which they are intended, *viz.*, the setting up of new or the expansion and improvement of existing Cottage Industries Units. The question of overall evaluation of the loan programme; from time to time, is being taken up.

Training of Cottage Industries Superintendent in Madras

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA asked:

477. (a) Whether it is a fact that all the Superintendents of Cottage Industries of Assam were sent for training in the month of December, 1958?

(b) If so, whether it will not affect in disbursement of grants and loans to the applicants before 31st March, 1959 ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries) replied:

477. (a)—Out of 12 Superintendents 6 Superintendents were deputed for training in Madras for 3 months in December, 1958.

(b)—No. During the period of training of the Superintendents the Marketing Officers and Assistant Directors of Cottage Industries remained in-charge, in addition to their own duties.

**Appointment of Director of Public Instruction
Assam as *ex-officio* Secretary of the Education
Department**

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

478. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Director, Public Instruction, Assam has been appointed as *ex-officio* Secretary of the Education Department ?

(b) If so, whether the same set of files, is rotating under one line, communication ?

(c) If not, who from the Secretariat Officers scrutinises the proposals initiated by him requiring orders of Government ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied :

478. (a)—Yes, the Director of Public Instruction has been appointed Secretary, Education Department temporarily in addition to his own duties.

(b) & (c)—The Director of Public Instruction as Head of a Department initiates proposals and these proposals are examined by the Education Department and are submitted by the Secretary, Education Department to the Minister-in-charge for orders with his views after scrutiny by officers at different levels in the Secretariat.

Number of theft cases reported by public to the Police Stations in the State

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

479. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) The number of cases of theft reported by public to the Police Stations in the State from 1st of September, 1958 to 31st December 1958 ?

(b) In how many of such complaints police have made spot inquiry in ?

(c) How many theft cases were reported to the Police Stations during the 4 months from 1st of May, 1958 to 31st of August, 1958 ?

480. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Total number of dacoity cases reported to the Police within 4 months from 1st September, 1958 to 31st December, 1958 and within 4 months before September, i. e., from 1st May, 1958 to 31st August, 1958 ?

(b) How many such complaints were inquired in to and how many of them were not inquired into (to be shown for the above to periods separately) ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

479. (a)—2,180 cases.

(b)—Except in one case, investigation of which was refused under Section 157 (b) Cr. P. C. all the above cases were inquired into by the Police on the spot.

(c)—1,211 cases.

480. (a)—(i) 60 cases from 1st September, 1958 to 31st December, 1958 and (ii) 62 cases from 1st May, 1958 to 31st August, 1958.

(b)—All the cases were inquired into by the Police.

Regarding amount sanctioned for digging a tank at Ujani Thengal Gaon in 1956

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

481. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that a certain amount was sanctioned for digging a tank at the Ujani Thengal Gaon of the Thengal Mauza in the year, 1956 ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the money was paid whereas the tank was not dug ?

(c) Whether Government will take adequate steps to get the work done at least now and punish the persons responsible for not digging the tank till now ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, T. A. D.) replied:

481. (a)—Yes, an amount of 600 was sanctioned by the Deputy Commissioner for digging a tank at Ujani Thengal Gaon of the Thengal Mouza in 1956-57.

(b)—Yes, the report now received from Deputy Commissioner, Sibsagar, shows that although the amount was paid to one Shri Konram Kachari the work has not yet been started.

(c)—The report received by the Deputy Commissioner, being not comprehensive, a further report has been called for. On receipt of the detailed report from the Deputy Commissioner, appropriate steps will be taken.

Regarding construction of Barpeta Civil Hospital

Shri MAHADEV DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

482. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Why the work of construction of the Barpeta Civil Hospital is not have taken in hand up till now ?

(b) When the work may be expected to be completed ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied:

482. (a)—An enquiry is being made into the matter from the Executive Engineer, Barpeta Division.

(b)—Every endeavour will be made to complete the work within the Second Plan period, *i. e.*, by the year 1960-61.

Extension of existing Motorable road from Shillong to Mairang upto Sonapahar in Nongstoin Syiemship

Shri HENRY COTTON [Nongstoin (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

483. Will the Minister in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) If it is a fact that there is a proposal to extend the existing motorable road from Shillong to Mairang upto Sonapahar in Nongstoin Syiemship ?

(b) If it is a fact that its construction has been delayed for dearth of Technical personnel ?

(c) When it is proposed to start construction of the said road ?

(d) Whether Government propose to complete the road within this year ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied:

483. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes, to some extent.

(c)—The portion of the road from Mairang to Markasa (23 miles) is now in progress. That from Markasa to Nongstoin (13 miles) has just been started. A portion of about 5 miles from Nongstoin towards Sonapahar side is also in progress. Works on the remaining length from the 6th mile to the 29th mile *i. e.*, upto Sonapahar will be started soon.

(b)—It is not possible.

Establishment of Venture Lower Primary School at rehabilitated area of Ghurpi (Phillobari), inspection and taking over the same by the School Board of Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

484. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a Venture Lower Primary School has been established at Ghurpi (Phillobari) under Doom Dooma Police Station, known as Bapuji Lower Primary School ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that this area is a rehabilitated area ?

(c) Whether this School has since been inspected by the inspecting staff ?

(d) What are the difficulties of the Dibrugarh School Board in taking over the School ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

484. (a)—Yes. The Venture School was started from 2nd January, 1958.

(b) & (c)—Report is being called for.

(d)—This is a new Venture School and the School Board cannot take over Venture School without provision of fund.

Regarding the completion Bagals Road and Railway level crossing gate

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

485. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he is aware that the Bagals road which was completed long ago has been rendered useless as the Railway have not yet opened the level crossing gate on the West of Kendukena Station in spite of insistant public demand and thus no vehicular traffic can pass on the road ?

(b) What steps Government of Assam have taken to have the gate opened ?

(c) Whether Government will take further steps to expedite the opening of the gate ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B.)] replied:

485. (a)—No public petition demanding the opening of the level crossing appears to have been received, but the question of opening a level crossing on the Bagals road has already received attention of the Government.

(b) & (c)—The matter is under correspondence with Railway authorities and every effort is being made to expedite.

Regarding the Contractors in North Lakhimpur Division

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked:

486. (a) The number of contractors employed during the year 1958 in North Lakhimpur Division.

(b) How many of these contractors were selected from local people, how many from outside North Lakhimpur and how many from outside the State ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that local contractors are not shown the same consideration in allotting contract works as is done in case of other contractors ?

(d) What was the value of the works allotted to each category of contractors mentioned in (b) above ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing)] replied:

486. (a)—300 contractors were employed during the year 1958-59.

(b)—Number of local contractors—260, contractors from outside North Lakhimpur—20 and contractors from outside the State—20.

(c) No. Due consideration is shown to the local contractors according to their capability as will be evident from the number of local contractors employed.

(d) Local contractors—Rs.12,52,000, contractors from outside North Lakhimpur Rs.1,44,000 and contractors from outside State Rs.2,54,000.

**Regarding the length and estimated expenditure of
Athghoria-Bukia Road of flood-affected area**

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari East) asked:

487. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing) be pleased to state—

- (a) The length of Athghoria-Bukia Road taken over by the Public Works Department ?
- (b) The date and the Scheme under which the road was taken over by the Public Works Department and the amount of expenditure estimated for the purpose ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the road passes through the flood-affected villages which are always subjected to continuous floods and that before any substantial improvement of the road was done, this already submerged ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that the road passes through areas predominantly inhabited by people of Scheduled Castes ?
- (e) Whether Government are also aware that the present condition of the road has become extremely unsatisfactory and even unfit for the use of pedestrians ?
- (f) What steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to keep the road fit for use of public?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. and B. Wing)] replied:

487. (a)—2.50 miles.

(b)—The project is estimated to cost Rs.35,000 and is included in the Petrol Tax Road Programme (70 lakhs). The Government of India have accorded their approval on 30th May 1957.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—The road is still under construction, and some difficulties is likely to be experienced before its completion to the estimated standard.

(f)—All endeavours are being taken to keep the road fit for foot-traffic for the present. 95 per cent of earthwork has been completed. The bridges except for one of 70 ft. length and the culverts are expected to be completed before next rains. This 70 ft. long bridge is not included under the sanctioned estimate.

Regarding Tihu Marketing Co-operative Society, Kamrup

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

488. Will the Minister, Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there are many dealers of paddy and other commodities amongst the members of Tihu Marketing Co-operative Society?
- (b) If so, why they are not removed from the membership of the Tihu Marketing Co-operative Society?
- (c) Whether such dealers will be removed from the membership without delay?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that there are many irregularities of the Tihu Marketing Co-operative Society?
- (e) If so, what steps have been taken against the Chairman who was directly involved in the irregularities?
- (f) What are the irregularities of the said Marketing Society?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the Chairman was himself a dealer of paddy and other commodities and he is a loanee from Apex Bank for his business in Paddy and other commodities?
- (h) If so how he becomes qualified for membership as well as Chairman of the Tihu Marketing Co-operative Society?
- (i) Whether the Tihu Co-operative Marketing Society will remain under suspension until and unless the above irregularities are removed by the previous Chairman and membership of those persons who are dealers of Paddy and other commodities are cancelled and have other profession and business of their own?

(j) If not, why ?

(k) Whether it is a fact that the membership of the Marketing Co-operative Society at Tihu is confined to, of which members are not cultivators themselves and persons engaged in other profession and business are debarred ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied:

488. (a)—Yes.

(b)—For want of suitable persons from amongst the real agriculturists to manage and guide the society, the General Meeting of the society in the initial stage has not thought it expedient to remove such members who are traders as well as agriculturists.

(c)—Yes, they will be gradually removed.

(d)—Yes, there are some.

(e)—The former Chairman, during whose tenure of office the irregularities occurred has been removed and a new Chairman has been elected and holding office now.

(f)—Primarily outright purchase of Paddy and Supari exceeding the prescribed limit.

(g)—Yes, the *Ex-Chairman* was a dealer and loanee of the Apex Bank.

(h)—The enrolment of the *Ex-Chairman* as member had been irregular.

(i)—The irregularities as pointed out in (f) are removed. The matter is being looked into and the society will be instructed to remove the traders from membership. The circumstances do not justify suspension of the society by which possibly the Managing Committee is meant.

(j)—The Chairman during whose time irregularities occurred have already been removed from office and the irregularities are also rectified. That is why the suspension of the Managing Committee of the society is not deemed necessary.

(k)—Membership of the Tihu Marketing Society is not confined alone to persons who are agriculturists and traders. Membership is open to agriculturists. Persons engaged in other professions and business are also not debarred, unless and otherwise disqualified under the bye-laws.

Regarding Quotas of C. I. sheets to Mauzas of Sibsagar Subdivision during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira) asked:

489. Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of bundles of C. I. sheets issued to each Mauza of Sibsagar Subdivision during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (b) What were the total quota of C. I. sheets received during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (c) How many bundles of C. I. sheets were issued to educational Institutions of Sibsagar subdivision during 1958-59 ?
- (d) Whether Government lately received a resolution from the Supply Advisory Board, Sibsagar urging Government to allot additional quotas of C. I. sheets for the educational Institutions which were receiving storm damage grants ?
- (e) Whether Government have taken any steps on this ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware of the insufficiency of C. I. sheets to meet the demand of the educational institutions and individuals of Sibsagar subdivision ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied:

489.—(a) to (f)—Information has been called for.

Representation of School Board, Dibrugarh for Venture Lower Primary School in Siker Abor Village in Murkongselek Transferred Area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

490. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government of the School Board, Dibrugarh lately received representations to

take over the Venture Lower Primary School in Siker Abor village in Murkongselek Transferred Area ?

- (b) Whether Government are aware that the questioner referred to the case of the Lower Primary School in Abor village to the Chief Minister on 19th December, 1958 pointing out that it was not taken over by the authorities although it was established in 1954 ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to take over this Venture Lower Primary School with immediate effect ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

490.—(a) to (c)—The informations are being collected.

Regarding Mohanbari Khonikar Venture Lower Primary School and its situation

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

491. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a Venture Lower Primary School known as Mohanbari Khonikar Lower Primary School at Mohanbari Hindu Gaon has been running in Lahoal Mauza, Dibrugarh subdivision ?
- (b) Whether the Government are aware that there is no other Lower Primary School within a radius of 3 miles and the enrolment is over 40 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the locality is inhabited by people of Backward communities ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to take over the School with retrospective effect from the 1st April, 1958 ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

491.—(a) to (d)—The informations are being collected.

Excess charge against Government Land Revenue

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

492. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the land owners of Bogdung Mauza and Chabua area of Dibrugarh subdivision have been charging Rupees twenty to Rupees twenty-five per bigha of land against Government revenue of rupee one or so ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the land owners are realising 8 to 10 maunds of paddy per "pura" (4 bighas) of land against production of 25 to 30 maunds of paddy although they are not Adhiars ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that a public meeting held at Chabua on 27th January, 1959 made allegations that land owners of Chabua and Bogdung areas are charging Rs.80 to Rs.100 per "pura" (4 bighas) of land or realising 8 to 10 maunds of paddy per "pura" of lands ?

(d) Whether necessary enquiry has been made in this regard ?

(e) If so, what is the result of that enquiry ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

492.—(a) to (e)—Information have been called for from the local officer and will be furnished as soon as received.

Regarding Public Works Department Labourers and their daily wages

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

493. Will the Minister in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) What are the daily wages given to Public Works Department labourers ?

(b) Whether it will be increased ?

(c) Why they are not made permanent even though they are working for many years without break ?

(d) Whether they will be made permanent ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied:

493. (a) & (b)—The Government have fixed the following minimum wages under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 :—

Skilled employees :—

Rs.2.75 nP per diem.

Unskilled employees :—

Rs.1.50 nP per diem.

Boys between 15 and 18 :—

Rs.1.25 nP per diem.

Superintending Engineers have been authorised to sanction higher rates of wages than the above minimum for the Departmental labourers in their Circles if time and condition demand any such enhancement.

(c) & (d)—Departmental labourers are casual employees and they are employed according to the necessity and demand for particular works. Hence the question of their absorption in any permanent measure does not arise.

Number of dismissed teacher in Barpeta School Board since 1957

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

494. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) How many teachers were dismissed by the Barpeta School Board since 1957 ?

(b) What are the reasons for this dismissed ?

(c) Whether they will be reinstalled by the School Board ?

(d) If so, when ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

494. (a), (b), (c) & (d)—The informations are being collected.

Number of boxes for packing and corking of liquor bottles in Assam

Shri MOLIA TATI (Doom Dooma) asked :

495. Will the Minister, Excise be pleased to state—

(a) Who has been given the contract for making wooden boxes for packing liquor bottles in Assam ?

(b) For how many boxes the contract or contracts have been given and of what sizes ?

(c) What is the rate per box ?

496. Will the Minister, Excise be pleased to state—

(a) Who has been given the contract for corking of liquor bottles in Assam ?

(b) What is the rate given for corking each liquor bottles ?

(c) What is the number of bottles that will have to be corked by the contractor ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise)
replied:

495. (a)—No separate contract for making wooden boxes for packing liquor bottles has been given to anybody. The three contractors, viz., Shri C. S. Kakoti, Messrs D. N. Hazarika and Co., and Shri J. C. Rajkhowa of Messrs Eastern Assam Industries Private, Ltd., who do the bottling of liquor also supply wooden packing cases.

(b)—As already mentioned, no separate contract for boxes has been given. The sizes of boxes, which are used by the bottling contractors for packing liquor bottles are as follow:—

for packing quart bottles—

19" × 13" × 14"

for packing pint bottles—

23" × 15" × 12"

(c)—(i) Rs.10 for each box for packing quart bottles.

(ii) Rs.12 for each box for packing pint bottles.

These rates are realised by the bottling contractors from the lessees only when the wooden boxes are not return in good condition.

496. (a)—No separate contract for corking liquor bottles has been given to anybody. The three bottling contractors do the corking of bottles also.

(b)—No separate rate has been fixed for corking liquor bottles. The rate for bottling of liquor includes corking also.

(c)—The number of bottles to be corked by each contractor in a month approximately is as follows:—

At Tinsukia Warehouse:—

1,20,000 quart bottles and 2,45,000 pint bottles.

At Jorhat Warehouse:—

1,10,318 quart bottles and 2,45,000 pint bottles.

At Nazira Warehouse:—

69,602 quart bottles and 69,596 pint bottles.

Construction of Jalah-Kumarikata Road by Public Works Department

Shri SURENDRA NATH DAS (Patacharkuchi) asked:

497. (a) When the Jalah-Kumarikata Road was taken up by the Public Works Department?

(b) Whether the road has been completed upto Barbari 15 miles post?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the portion of the road from Barbari to Charaimari and Charaimari-Jalah has been divided in two sections?

(d) Whether it is a fact that Jalah C. D. Block and Barka N. E. S. Block has been touched by this Road and that the two sections from Barbari to Charaimari to Jalah have not been completed?

(e) Whether it is a fact that in rainy season for six months contact between the public and the Administrative staff of the project remains practically absent?

(f) Whether the road is in the Tribal areas?

(g) Whether the Government propose to take steps to complete at least upto Charaimari *via* Mashaipur which is the headquarter of Barka N. E. S. Block?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing)] replied:

497. (a)—Construction of the road was taken up by Public Works Department in the month of February, 1955.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The question of splitting up into sections of the portion of the road from Barbari to Jalah has not been considered as this portion has not been taken up yet.

(d)—Yes. Taking up of this portion of the road is not included in any of the approved schemes either under or outside the Plan.

(e)—There are village roads in the area. Communication should not be totally cut off.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Not at present in view of (d) above.

Budget provision for construction of Barpeta Sub-Jail

Shri MAHADEV DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

498. Will the Minister-in-charge of Jails be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is a Budget Provision for construction of Barpeta Sub-Jails from the last 3 years.
- (b) Why the said budgetary amount has not yet been utilised for this purpose up till now ?
- (c) Whether it a fact that the Minister was pleased to assure the house during the last session that the preliminary work of construction of the said jail would be taken in hand, during the current year ?
- (d) If so, why there has been such delay ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, Education for (Minister, Home)] replied:

498.(a)—Provision of funds was made in the budget for the last 3 years as follows:

					Rs.
1. 1956-57	...	...	...	...	1,00,000
2. 1957-58	...	...	...	...	1,50,000
3. 1958-59	...	...	...	...	5,000

(b) & (c)—The estimate of the project was revised and it was estimated that the project will cost Rs.16,18,000. But as the budget provision was not sufficient to cover the expenditure, the project had to be dropped ultimately. A modest scheme will be taken up for consideration as soon as possible.

(d)—Does not arise in view of reply to (b) and (c) above.

Building materials of Gauhati State Transport Office

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked:

499. Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the C. I. Sheet building in the Gauhati Station of the Shillong-Gauhati State Transport Office has been dismantled ?
- (b) Whether the materials have been sold and if so, by what method this has been done, whether by auction, tender or private arrangement ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that it was arranged with a private party to sell all the materials at Rs.4,000 and if so, who made the arrangement and who was the party ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

499. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The materials were not sold but put to public auction at short notice.

(c)—No. It was first put to public auction at short notice and the highest bid was Rs.400.

Number of districts under jurisdictions of the Transport Commissioner and Revenue earnings of the Department during 1956-1957 and 1957-58

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

500. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) What districts in the State come under the jurisdiction of the Transport Commissioner?
- (b) How many of the districts have been inspected so far by the present Commissioner of Transport ?
- (c) Why important places like North Lakhimpur and Cachar could not so far been inspected ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that revenue earnings of the department has lately dwindled to a great extent ?

(e) If so, why ?

(f) What was the amount of revenue collected by the Transport Department during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

500. (a)—Whole of the State of Assam.

(b)—Four districts, *viz.*, Darrang, Nowgong, Goalpara and Sibsagar.

(c)—There is no District Transport Officer's office in North Lakhimpur. Inspection of the Silchar District Transport Officer's office is being taken up.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—The revenue earnings under 'XII Taxes on Vehicles' during 1956-57 and 1957-58 were Rs.54,52,470 and Rs.56,74,068 respectively.

Auction Sale of State Transport Godown and Machine Shed at Paltan Bazar, Gauhati

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

501. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a godown and a Machine Shed of Assam State Transport situated at Paltan Bazar, Gauhati were lately sold in auction on a meagre sum of Rs.400 only and the sale was approved by the Director, State Transport?

(b) Whether it is a fact that due to public criticism the sale was rescinded and the same properties were put to re-sale?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the re-sale of the same properties fetched a sum of Rs.14,000 (fourteen thousand)?

(d) If so, why Government properties were sold at such a nominal price?

(e) Who was the Officer entrusted with the sale of those Government properties?

(f) Who was the Officer responsible for such a deal?

(g) What action has been taken by Government against these Officers for such derelictions?

(h) What were the sizes of the godown and the machine shed?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

501. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The re-sale fetched Rs.11,000 (Rupees eleven thousand) only.

(d)—Kindly refer to the replies to the (b) and (c).

(e), (f) & (g)—The matter is under investigation of the Public Works (Roads and Buildings) and Transport Departments.

(h)—The plinth area of the godown and the Machine sheds were 5,337 square feet and 5,686 square feet respectively.

Number of petitions for Settlement of land filed in Barpeta Circle Office in 1951 to 1958

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

502. Will the Ministers, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) How many Kabula petitions, Miscellaneous petitions (*i. e.*, petition or settlement of land) were filed in the Barpeta Circle Office within Barpeta Subdivision during the years 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958 ?

(b) How many of them have been finally disposed of ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that no action has been taken on some of these petitions by the Land Record Staff of Barpeta Circle even after orders passed by the Assistant Settlement Officer.

(d) Whether Government will enquire into it ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

502. (a)—37,178.

(b)—25,360.

(c)—It is not a fact.

(d)—Does not arise.

Regarding Tea Gardens relevant Act

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

503. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a Tea Garden authority can serve notice of discharge on its employee when he is sick and undergoing treatment at home ?

(b) Whether such instances occurring in some European tea gardens of Sibsagar and other Districts have come to the notice of Government ?

(c) If so, whether Government propose to take proper steps under the relevant Act to stop such mal-practices ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister of Labour) replied :

503. (a)—Under the Standing Order of the tea gardens duly certified by the Certifying Officer any worker who is sick is granted sick leave against certification by the Medical Officer or his representative and the employers cannot discharge a workman during a period of such authorised leave.

(b)—No such instances have come to our notice.

(c)—Government will take suitable steps if specific instances of any violation are brought to their notice.

Pending Revenue petitions in Subdivisional Officer's Office at Barpeta

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

504. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that certified copies of the Revenue petitions filed in the Circle Offices of Barnagar and Bajali within Barpeta Subdivision are not supplied for years together?
- (b) If, so whether Government will be pleased to enquire into the matter and take steps?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that hundreds of Revenue copy petitions of are lying pending with the Revenue copyist of Subdivisional Officer's Office, Barpeta due to the non-supplying of the original petitions from Circle Offices of Barpeta and Barnagar?
- (d) If so, how many petitions are lying in this way and who is responsible for this state of affairs?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

504. (a)—It is not a fact that petitions for certified copies of Revenue petitions filed in Barnagar Circle are lying pending for years together. Some petitions are pending in the Circles for some months only and a few petitions are pending in the Bajali Circle since 1957-58.

(b)—Yes, necessary steps are being taken for early disposal of the petitions soon.

(c)—Yes, altogether 1,116 petitions are pending with the revenue copyists of the Subdivisional Officer's Office, Barpeta till the end of February, 1959. Out of those, 974 petitions are pending for non-receipt of the records from the Circle Officers of Barpeta and Baghbar.

(d)—847 copy petitions are pending with the Assistant Settlement Officer, Baghbar and 127 with Assistant Settlement Officer, Barpeta. Action is being taken against those who are responsible.

Residential quarter of Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department, Nalbari

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

505. Will the Minister in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether for want of departmental quarters, the Executive Engineer, North Kamrup Division is compelled to occupy the residential quarters meant for Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department, Nalbari.

(b) If so, why the quarters for Executive Engineer have not been constructed, even though a good amount was sanctioned by this Assembly?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied:

505. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The private land selected for construction of the Executive Engineer's residence at Nalbari could not yet be acquired. The building cannot be constructed without getting possession of the land.

Member of man for Survey Training from Mangaldai

Shri PAHKI RAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

506. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that some persons from Mangaldai have been sent for Survey Training?

(b) If so, what is the number of them?

(c) Whether it is a fact that there were some Tribal candidates for this Survey Training?

(d) If so, whether their cases have also been considered?

(e) If not, why not?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

506. (a)—Yes.

(b)—(i) Regular Recorders Class 11

(ii) Special Course Class 3

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Does not arise

Land distribution from Sonowal, Chekonidhara grants of Jorhat Subdivision

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked:

507. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact the lands distributed from Chekonidhara, Kaleapani and Sonowal grants of Jorhat Subdivision are settled mostly with people who have got sufficient lands and holdings of their own and petitions from actual landless persons were repeated?

(b) Whether Government will be pleased to enquire and call for the records as to how many actual landless people got lands from these grants and how many receipts have already possessed sufficient lands?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

507. (a) & (b)—Information have been called for.

Extension land for Balya Bhawan, Jorhat

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA asked:

508.—Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to grant the plot of land adjacent to Balya Bhawan, Jorhat which is lying vacant to this school for its extension?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

508.—Information have been called for.

Sanction of three post of Inspector of Schools and Member of Schools at Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

509. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that in the last re-organisation of the Inspectorate of Schools one post of Inspector of Schools at Silchar and two Assistant Inspectors, one at Dibrugarh and the other at Tezpur were created?
- (b) What is the number of Schools to be inspected by the Assistant Inspector of Schools at Dibrugarh?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that Government propose to re-designate the Assistant Inspectors of Schools at District Headquarters as District Inspectors and allot 50 schools under one inspecting officers?
- (d) If not, what is the present proposal of re-organisation?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

509. (a)—The post of 1 (one) Inspectress of Schools was abolished as the Men's and Women's branches of education were amalgamated. In its place a post of Inspector of Schools, S.A.C., with headquarter at Silchar was created?

No new posts of Assistant Inspector of Schools were created. The Assistant Inspector of Schools, C. A. C. and Assistant Inspector of Schools, U. A. C. who are so long attached to the office of the Inspector of Schools of the respective circles have been transferred to Tezpur and Dibrugarh.

(b)—The Assistant Inspector of Schools, Dibrugarh is to inspect the High Schools of the Dibrugarh and North Lakhimpur Subdivisions and to supervise the inspection

of Middle English Schools. The number of schools are as shown below:—

				High	M. E.
Dibrugarh	...	...	...	40+5 (unrecognised)	62+40 (unrecognised).
North Lakhimpur	...	...	...	13+4 (unrecognised)	32+14 (unrecognised).
Total				53+9	94+54

(c)—Provision has been proposed in the next year's budget for 12 Assistant Inspectors of Schools. If these posts are sanctioned, we expect to have 40 High Schools per inspecting officers. There is no proposal for changing the designation of Assistant Inspector of Schools so far.

(d)—As at (c) above.

Banderkhati M.E. School in Hapjan Mauza (Dibrugarh)

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked:

510. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Banderkhati M. E. School was established about 10 years back in Hapjan Mouza (Dibrugarh) and there is no other such school within a radius of about 8 miles ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the school is situated in a backward area and good results has been shown since the last few years ?

(c) What were the difficulties of the Government in sanctioning recurring aid to this institution so long ?

(d) Whether Government propose to sanction recurring aid to this institution with immediate effect ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

510. (a) to (d)—Information are being collected.

Recurring Grant for Tangana M.E. School in Saikhowa Mauza, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

511. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is a Middle English School known as Tangana Middle English School in Saikhowa Mauza, Dibrugarh ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that there is no other such School within a radius of 5 miles and that the School Committee had been moving the Government for recurring aid since the last few years ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to sanction recurring aid to this School with immediate effect ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

511. (a) to (c)—Information are being collected.

Recurring Aid for Dirak M. E. School, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked :

512. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that Dirak Middle English School was established in Saikhowa Mauza (Dibrugarh) few years back and there is no other such school within a radius of about 8 miles ?

- (b) Whether Government are aware that the School is situated in a backward area ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the School had been moving the authorities to sanction recurring aid ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to sanction recurring aid to this School with effect from this year ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

512. (a) to (d)—Information are being collected.

Regarding Panikhowa M. E. School in Tingrai Mauza (Doom Dooma)

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

513. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that Panikhowa Middle English School was established in Tingrai Mauza (Doom-Dooma area) ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that the School is situated in backward villages and there is no other such school within a radius of about 7 miles ?
- (c) What amount of recurring or non-recurring aid has so far granted to this School ?
- (d) Whether Government proposed to help this institution by sanctioning non-recurring and recurring aid as early as possible ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

513. (a) to (d)—Information are being collected.

Government aid for Middle English School at Pengeri (Dibrugarh)

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

514. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that there is a Middle English School at Pengeri in Buridihing Mauza (Dibrugarh) and there is no other such School within a radius of about 10 miles?
- (b) Whether any Government aid was yet been sanctioned to this Institution?
- (c) What are the difficulties in sanctioning recurring aid to this Institution?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

514. (a) to (c)—Information are being collected.

Ad-hoc Committee of an Aided High School

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

515. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) The life term of an *ad-hoc* Committee of an Aided High English School?
- (b) Why the Namti High English School in the Sibsagar Subdivision is being managed by an *ad-hoc* Committee since 1957 and why the lawfully constituted managing Committee is debarred from functioning?
- (c) Whether Government propose to instruct the school authority to replace the *ad-hoc* committee by the newly constituted managing committee with immediate effect?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

515. (a)—3 years.

(b)—After the normal expiry of the Managing Committee of the Namti High English School in 1957 an *Ad-hoc* Committee is running the Administration of the School as a regular Managing Committee could not be formed in spite of best efforts of the Government.

(c)—Yes.

Misappropriation in matter of supplying Rice to Cheap grain shop in Dhubri

Maulavi JAHAN UDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) asked:

516. (a) Will the Minister be pleased to state whether they have received a copy of the petition addressed to Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara, by the Public of Bidyapara of Dhubri Town in the month of August 1958, requesting the Government to enquire into the matter of great loss by way of misappropriation, in the matter of supplying rice to the cheap grain shop in Dhubri Subdivision by one Assam Commercial Contract Co. in the year 1956?

(b) Whether Government have finished the enquiry ?

(c) Whether the Supply Inspector, Dhubri contracted Shri Danraj Agarwala of Dhubri town in this matter ?

(d) At what stage of the enquiry the matter rests now ?

(e) Whether Government are willing to finish the enquiry at a very early date and bring the culprits to Book ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHAUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied:

516. (a)—A copy of the said petition has been received from the questioner on 21st March 1959.

(b) to (e)—A detailed report has urgently been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara on the allegations. His report is being awaited. Further action will be taken on the receipt of his report.

State Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Board of Assam

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

517. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the post of the Secretary of the State Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Board of Assam is a full time or part time one ?
- (b) Whether there is one Personal Assistant or Superintendent in the above office ?
- (c) If so, what is the qualification of the present Personal Assistant or the Superintendent ?
- (d) Whether he is a graduate or *ex-serviceman* ?
- (e) Whether there were applicants with better qualifications at the time the post was filled in ?
- (f) If so, why none of them has been appointed ?
- (g) What is the direction given by the State Board by Resolution No.4 in its meeting held on 18th February, 1956 for their appointment ?
- (h) Why it has not been followed ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that a full time Secretary or Under-Secretary will be appointed for the Board ?
- (j) If so, when ?
- (k) What is the remuneration paid to the part time Secretary ?
- (l) Who is he ?
- (m) How many district Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards are there and what are their names ?
- (n) Whether these District Boards have any power ?
- (o) If so, what are those powers ?
- (p) Whether it is a fact that cases of Misappropriation have been filed against the officials of the State Board ?
- (q) If so, how many of them have been convicted ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

517. (a) to (q)—Information has been called for.

Regarding the representation submitted by a deputation from Tihu

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

518. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a deputation from Tihu met him at Shillong in the Assembly House and placed before him a list of grievances of Tihu on 22nd August, 1958 and to redress those grievances?

(b) If so, what are the main grievances as stated in that representation?

(c) Whether Government has taken any action to redress the grievances as placed by the deputationist in the application?

(d) Whether Government will be pleased to give due consideration to redress these grievances?

(e) If so, when these grievances will be redressed?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

518. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The main grievances are:—

(1) Grant for construction of the Tihu Government Aided High English School and Tihu Girls' School building.

(2) Conversion of the Tihu Local Board dispensary into Primary Health Unit and grant for its improvement.

(3) Posting of a Veterinary Doctor to the Bhendoram State Veterinary dispensary at Tihu and supply of requisite medicine for treatment of the diseased cattle.

(4) Establishment of an office of Agricultural Inspector at Tihu.

(5) Opening of a Production-cum-Training Centre at Tihu for cottage industries like weaving, blacksmithy, carpentry, bamboo and cane works.

(6) Electrification of Tihu and other adjoining places.

(7) Opening of the Head quarters of the proposed N. E. S. Block in a central place.

(8) Improvement of certain old roads with earthwork bridges, culverts, etc.,

(c) to (e)—The proposals are under consideration of the different Departments concerned.

Number of *Ex-Servicemen* in Assam

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

519. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Government is aware of the number of *Ex-Servicemen* in Assam and if so, what is the number, Subdivision-wise ?
- (b) Whether they have been given any financial assistance ?
- (c) Whether is there a Post-war Reconstruction Fund ?
- (d) If so, what is the total amount of that fund ?
- (e) Whether any benefit has been given to *Ex-Service-men* from that fund ?
- (f) If so, who are the beneficiaries and what are the benefits given to each of them ?
- (g) Whether the fund has been managed in accordance with rules ?
- (h) If so, who are managing the same ?
- (i) Whether Plans and Schemes for resettlement of the *Ex-Servicemen* were called by the Secretary, Post-war Services Reconstruction Fund on 21st March, 1955 ?
- (j) If so, what happened to those Schemes ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

519. (a) to (j)—Information has been called for.

Total amount of grants, advances and loans given to Cottage and Major Industries during 1957-58 and 1958-59

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

520. Will the Minister-in-charge of Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) The total amount of advances and loans given to Major Industries including Tea Estates during the period between 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (b) The total amount of advances and loans given to Cottage Industries in the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (c) The total amount of grants given to the Major Industries including Tea Industry during 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (d) The total amount of grants given to Cottage Industries in 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

520. (a)—	1957-58	1958-59
	Rs.33.5 lakhs	Rs.90,000
No loan was given to any Tea Estate during this period.		
(b)—	1957-58	1958-59
	Rs.4,67,330	Rs.2,03,050
(c)—Nil.		
(d)—	1957-58	1958-59
	Rs.1,34,650	Rs.1,34,165

Pay and qualification of the Director of Major Industries

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

521. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the qualification of the present Director of Cottage Industries ?

- (b) When was he appointed ?
- (c) What was he prior to his appointment in Assam ?
- (d) What was his salary before he came to Assam ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that he does not sign papers for many a months and keep them pending ?
- (f) What is his present salary ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister of Industries) replied:

521. (a)—He is an M.Sc. (Tech.) in Chemical Engineering and has had considerable experience in industrial administration and management.

(b)—He joined as Director of Major Industries on 6th May, 1958. The Cottage Industries Directorate was also placed under him with effect from 18th June, 1958.

(c)—He was earlier Director of Industries, Saurashtra and after merger of Saurashtra with Bombay, was appointed Deputy Director-in-charge of the Saurashtra and Kutch Division of the Bombay State, which post he was holding at the time of his appointment, on deputation, as Director of Industries, Assam.

(d)—Rs.740.

(e)—No.

(f)—Rs.1,750.

Opening of Bus line from Sorbhog to Gauhati

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

522. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a bus line will be opened from Sorbhog to Gauhati ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) Whether representation to that effect has lately been given to the Government ?

(d) If so, by whom ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Transport Minister) replied:

522. (a), (b), (c) and (d)—Information is being collected.

Regarding opening of Bus line from Sorbhog to Borigaon

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

523. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a bus line will be opened from Sorbhog to Borigaon ?

(b) If so, when ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Transport Minister) replied:

523. (a) and (b)—Information is being collected.

Survey work for plantation of Fuel Trees at Bhatkuchi Reserves, Barpeta by Forest Department

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

524. Will the Minister, Forests be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Survey work was lately done by the Forest Department at Bhatkuchi Reserve in Barpeta Subdivision for plantation of Fuel trees ?

(b) If so, when plantation works will be started ?

(c) Whether Officer have been recruited for this purpose ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

524. (a)—Bhatkuchi and Ganakkuchi Grazing Reserves were inspected and Survey of the Ganakkuchi Grazing Reserve near Barpeta Town over about 140 (one hundred and forty) acres to constitute it a Fuel Reserve was done last year.

(b)—Plantation work will be started after constitution of the area in to a Reserve Forest for which the Deputy Commissioner is being asked to submit the proposal early.

(c)—No Officer has been recruited.

Proposal to supply cheap power to Tinsukia-Makum region

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

525. Will the Minister-in-charge of Power and Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that these are heavy demands of cheap power to the industries in Tinsukia-Makum region of Dibrugarh ?

(b) If so, whether there is any proposal to arrange supply of cheap power to these industries ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister, Power and Industries) replied:

525. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The matter is under the consideration of the State Electricity Board.

Gauge and discharge observations of the river Manas in Barpeta Subdivision

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

526. Will the Minister, Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) How long Government will take in collecting data of river Manas in Barpeta Subdivision for Hydro-electric purpose ?

(b) What is the total amount spent up-till now for this purpose ?

(c) Whether there is any prospect of getting electricity from this project ?

(d) If so, when ?

(e) If not, whether Government will abandon it by now instead of spending further money ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Electricity) replied:

526. (a)—No data of the river Manas in Barpeta Subdivision are being collected now for Hydro-electric purpose. Only gauge and discharge observations of the river Manas are being made at Mathanguri and North Trunk Road crossing for other purposes by the Central Water Power Commission.

(b)—The amount involved for gauge and discharge observations is not available at present.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—No. Gauge and discharge observation will continue to be made.

Members of the Subdivisional Development Committee

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

527. Will the Minister-in-charge of Planning and Development be pleased to state—

(a) Who are the members of the different Subdivisional Development Committees in the State?

(b) When do they meet?

(c) Whether all the M. L. As. of the district are the members of the Subdivisional Development Committee, Gauhati whereas it is not so in other Subdivisions?

(d) If so, why?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister-in-charge of Planning and Development) replied:

527. (a)—The Deputy Commissioner/Subdivisional Officer is the Chairman of the Development Committee and all senior local officials of departments dealing with development work are members. The Development Officer is the Secretary of the Committee.

(b)—The Committee meets frequently.

(c)—No. The M. L. A.s of Gauhati Subdivision are not members of the Committee but are only requested to attend the meeting if they so like to discuss matters with all officials.

(d)—Does not arise in view of answer to (a) and (c).

Member of Refugees and loan distributed to them in Barpeta Subdivision

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

528. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many refugees are there in Barpeta Subdivision ?

(b) Whether they have been rehabilitated ?

(c) If not, what is the reason ?

(d) What amount of loans have been disbursed to them uptill now ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that they undergo great difficulties in getting loans ?

(f) How many cases of sanction of loan are pending ?

(g) Whether those cases will be disposed of soon ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

528. (a)—10,307 families or approximately 46,382 persons upto 31st December 1958.

(b)—Approximately 75 per cent to 80 per cent (seventy-five to eighty per cent) of the families are rehabilitated either fully or partially.

(c)—Steps have been taken to rehabilitate the balance number of families.

(d)—Rupees 39,77,750.50 nP. upto 31st December 1958.

(e)—No such complaint has come to the notice of Government.

(f)—Information being called for.

(g)—The question would be taken up on receipt of information to (f) above.

Number of accidents on the Aijal-Lungleh Jeep Road during 1958

Shri C. THUAMLUAIA [Lungleh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

529. Will the Minister-in-charge of Tribal Areas Department be pleased to state—

(a) What was the number of Motor accidents on the Aijal-Lungleh Jeep Road during the year 1958 ?

(b) What was the number of casualties and the number of death from those accidents ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge. Transport) replied:

529. (a) & (b)—The detailed information has been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Mizo District whose report is still awaited. Detailed information will be furnished to the hon. Member as soon as it is available.

Discharge of one Assistant Revenue Branch, Goalpara

Maulavi SAHADAT ALI (South Salmara) asked:

530. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Sree Umesh Chandra Nath of Goalpara, Office Assistant, Revenue Branch, Goalpara has been discharged due to his age bar ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that Sree Umesh Chandra Nath was a petitioner in an election case of Sree Khagendra Nath Nath and Sree Hakim Chandra Rava who were elected to this Assembly from Goalpara constituency ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that Sree Umesh Chandra Nath has been discharged after the filing of the election case ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister) replied :

530. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes, but his discharge has nothing to do with the filing of the election petition.

Representation to the Ministers of Agriculture and Revenue

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked :

531. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that some Adhiars who have lately submitted representation to the Ministers of Agriculture and Revenue, have not yet been restored the lands in the Golokganj Agricultural Farm in the district of Goalpara ?

(b) Whether the Adhiars who have been ousted from the land by the Farm Manager can expect protection under the Adhiars Protection Act ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

531. (a)—Yes ; a representation, dated 4th Bohag, 1365 B. S. from Shri Bipin Chandra Roy and others was received by Government, that the lands let out to them in 1364 B. S. on Adhi were given to others for 1365 B. S. The land has since been resumed by the Agriculture Department for Departmental cultivation and not restored to Adhiars.

(b)—Section 4 of the Adhiars Protection and Regulation Act, 1948, gives protection to the aggrieved party who may approach the Adhi Conciliation Board of the locality.

State's Tea gardens areas and income from the garden under land revenue

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

532. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) What is the total area of land under occupation of the Tea gardens of the State ?

(b) What was the income of the State from the Tea gardens under Land Revenue during the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?

(c) What are the other heads of revenue realised by the State from the Tea gardens during the above two years ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

532. (a)—Total area in Assam is 13,95,304 acres in 1956.

(b)—(1) For 1957-58 Land Revenue Rs. 26,97,577

32N.P.

(2) For 1958-59 Land Revenue Rs. 26,94,873

93N.P.

(c)—(I) Taxes under the Assam Taxation (on goods carried by roads or inland waterways) Act, 1954.

(II) Taxes under the Assam Agricultural Income Tax Act, 1939.

Construction of Judicial Lock-up at Nalbari

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked:

533. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) When the Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) was first asked to submit plan and estimate for construction of Judicial Lock-up at Nalbari ?

(b) Whether the works of construction of Judicial Lock-up will be executed during the financial year ending on 31st March, 1959 ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

533. (a)—Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup on 16th May, 1958 asked Executive Engineer, North Kamrup Division to prepare plan and estimate for construction of Lock-up at Nalbari. Executive Engineer has sent the site plan to Site Selection Committee for approval and awaiting their approval.

(b)—As no final decision in the matter is arrived at the construction work could not be taken within this financial year ending on 31st March, 1959.

Gravelling Kamalpur-Morwa Road

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

534. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there was any budget provision for gravelling Kamalpur-Morwa Road in the year 1958-59 ?

(b) What is the length of the road so far gravelled ?

(c) From which end gravelling work has been started ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied:

534. (a)—There is no separate estimate for gravelling the Road except the combined one, *viz.*, Further improvement and gravelling Kamalpur-Morwa Road including Boralia Bridge at an estimated cost of Rs.1,20,000.

(b)—Gravelling has not been started yet.

(c)—Does not arise, now.

Amount allocated to Gauhati and North Kamrup P.W.D. Division

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

535. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) What is the total amount allocated to Gauhati Public Works Department Division and North Kamrup Public Works Department Division respectively for—

(i) original works, and for

(ii) repairs works for the year 1958-59 ?

(b) What is the total amount for which tenders have been accepted and work is in progress ?

(c) What is the total amount for which tenders have been invited upto 1st February, 1959 ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D (R.&B.)] replied:

535. (a)—Allocation for 1958-59

Original Works Repair Works

Gauhati Division .. 27,68,500 7,72,000

North Kamrup Division 16,46,000 19,91,000

(b)—Gauhati Division ... 35,40,500

North Kamrup Division .. 36,38,000

(c)—Gauhati Division ... 7,60,000

North Kamrup Division ... 23,62,000

The figure is for the period from 1st April 1958 to 1st February 1959 called for in Divisions only.

Regarding Radiographers and their Pay Scales

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked:

536. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that three different scales of pay have been given by Government as regards the pay of Radiographers?

(b) What are these three scales?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the nature of duties of the Radiographers serving in Civil Hospital, Medical College Hospital and T. B. Clinics are the same?

(d) Whether the Radiographers serving in the Civil Hospitals are given the scale of Rs.75—4—115—E.B.—4—135—150 per mensem?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied:

536. (a)—There are two different scales of pay.

(b)—The scales are—

(1) Rs.75—4—114—E.B.—4—135—5—150 per mensem.

(2) Rs.100—6—160—E.B.—8—200 per mensem.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes. It is under consideration of Government to make one scale for all the Radiographers serving in Civil Hospitals, T. B. Clinics and Assam Medical College Hospital instead of two scales.

Regarding Vella Dispensary

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

537. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to refer the interim reply given to unstarred question No.59 (f) asked by the questioner during the last August-September, Session 1958 and State—

(a) Whether Government has got information about the Vella Dispensary ?

(b) If so, at what State the dispensary is running now ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied:

537. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Government Subsidised dispensary is functioning with subsidy from Government as in other cases and the Local Board Dispensary is run by the Local Board Barpeta. The question of closing down the Government subsidised Dispensary is already under consideration of Government.

Location of Sree Devendra Nath Dutta, Nowholia Gaon, Sibsagar

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

538. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that the house of Sree Debendra Nath Dutta Nowholia Gaon, P.O. Namati, Joktali Mauza, Sibsagar Sub-division, is located on the same spot nearly a century ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the said house has been converted to a permanent one at the cost of Rs.5000 (Rupees five thousands) last year ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that suddenly without any previous notice what-so-ever; on the 29th February, 1959, a Government Officer with some armed constables, appeared on the spot and ordered to cut the fencings and to demolish the building without paying any compensation?

(d) Whether Government will make an enquiry and stop this ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

538.—Information has been called for.

Formation of Co-operative farming Society by Ex-servicemen, Nowgong

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

539. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that some of the *ex-servicemen* of Nowgong District, have formed a Co-operative farming Society (Registered No. 76 dated 13th February 1955) and started agricultural farming at Dwarsalona, Nowgong District ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Government is not yet offering any financial assistance to this Society though prayed for many a times ?
- (c) Whether Government will be pleased to extend such assistance at the earliest ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

539.—Information has been called for.

Land allotted to some families of Ex-servicemen at Lonka, Nowgong

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH asked:

540. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a plot of land about 330 bighas at Lonka (N. Area) in Nowgong, was allotted to some families of *ex-servicemen* on 5th June 1957 (*vide* letter No.6766-68/5/47 dated) but possession of the same is not yet given to them by fixing the demarcation of the plot ?

- (b) If so, why and whether Government will be pleased to expedite giving possession by making actual demarcation at the earliest ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

540. (a) & (b)—Information has been called for.

Regarding Tours of Minister, Deputy Minister, and Parliamentary Secretaries to Cachar District

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

541. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the names of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries who went on tour to Cachar District in the month of July, last ?
- (b) What is the amount drawn as Travelling Allowance and Dearness Allowances, etc., by each of them on this account ?
- (c) What is the cost of fuel (petrol and Mobil, etc.,) consumed by each of their vehicles and paid from the State exchequer ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that all the Government cars jeeps of that district were requisitioned by the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar for the use of the Ministers and other persons joining the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee Meeting at Silchar held in July, last ?
- (e) If so, why Government Vehicles were used for the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee Meeting at Silchar ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

541. (a)—Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathy, Minister, Planning and Development, etc.

(b)—Rs.81.31 Naya Paise only.

(c)—Nil.

(d) & (e)—Materials are being collected.

Total expenditure of Government under different heads in 1957-58 and 1958-59

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

542. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) The total expenditure of the Government under different heads in the year 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (b) The total expenditure incurred by the Government under different heads on pay and salary bills during the above period ?
- (c) What was the percentage of Expenditure on pay and other emoluments of Government employees and for other works during the said period ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

542. (a) to (c)—A statement is placed on the Assembly Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 109).

Appointment of Directors, Assistant Directors, Deputy Directors and other Gazetted officers by Government since January 1958

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

543. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Directors, Assistant Directors, Deputy Directors and other Gazetted officers have been newly appointed in various Departments of the Government since January 1958 ?
- (b) Who are they and what is their respective pay ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

543. (a) Two Directors, three Joint Directors, 8 Assistant Directors, 9 Deputy Directors and 208 other gazetted officers have been appointed in various Departments of the Government since January 1958. The post of Director of Tourism however is now held by another officer in addition to his own duties.

(b)—A statement is laid on the Library Table (Please see Library Register No. s. 110).

List of Schedule Tribal Students' who have been granted stipends in 1958-59

U JOR MANIK SIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

544. (a) Will the Education Minister be pleased to place on the table the List of Schedule Tribal Students who have been granted stipends in 1958-59 with their respective mark sheets ?

(b) How many applications were received during the year from the Schedule Tribal Students ?

(c) What are the bases for awarding stipends and who decided the awards ?

Shri RADHIKARAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

544. (a)—A List is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 111).

(b)—6730.

(c)—The basis of award of special scholarships are (1) Poverty and (2) merit. Preference is however given to Border students as decided by the "Special Scholarships Committee and Sub-Committee" appointed by Government in the T. A. D. for the purpose. For merit scholarships, merit is the only consideration.

Regarding budget provision for Roads and Buildings for the year 1958-59

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

545. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) What is the total budget provision for the year 1958-59 for construction of roads and buildings allotted for (i) original works and for (ii) repair works ?

(b) What amount has been allocated to different Sub-Division for the year 1958-59 for original works and for repair works ?

(c) What is the total amount for which tenders for works have been accepted and work is in progress ?

- (d) What is the total amount for which tenders have been invited upto 1st of February, 1959 ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing) replied:

545. (a)—The total budget provision for the year 1958-59 for roads and buildings are

- (i) Rs.5,44,39,000 for original works and (ii) Rs.2,08,39,000 for repair works.

(b)—A Statement in this connection has been placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 112).

(c)—Rs.4,34,16,000 during 1958-59.

(d) Rs. 4,90,40,000.

Political sufferers in Barpeta Subdivision who are receiving pensions

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

546. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many persons in Barpeta Sub-Division are now receiving pensions, or monthly allowances as political sufferers or their dependents, with their names and addresses and also reasons for selecting them for such favour ?

(b) How many persons of Barpeta Sub-Division have received lump-sum gratuities as political sufferers, with their names and addresses, the amount they received and extent of their sufferings ?

(c) How many students whose fathers, or guardians, belong to Barpeta Sub-Division, have received stipends, as sons or dependents of political sufferers, in Barpeta Subdivision or elsewhere in the State, or outside the State, with their names, names of their father or guardians (for whose sufferings they are granted the stipends) and the amount they received since 1955 ?

(d) Whether Government are aware there are lots of complaints made by the people against the Committee formed by Government for Barpeta Subdivision, to recommend relief to the political sufferers there ?

- (e) If so, whether Government propose to change its personnel ?
- (f) Whether powers are given to the said committee to co-operate other members ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to consider the recommendations made by other institutions, such as P. S. P. and Sub-Divisional Political Sufferers' Convention ?
- (h) Whether the Sub-Divisional Sufferers' Committees have been empowered to report on pecuniary condition of the sufferers ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Political Sufferers) replied:

546. (a) & (b)—A list of the recipients of pensions and lump-sum of Barpeta Sub-Division is laid down on the Library Table of the Assembly. (Please see Library Register No. s. 113). They were given relief in consideration of their sacrifices made for Independence of India.

(c)—Information is being collected.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Government will consider the cases only recommended by the Sub-Divisional Advisory Board.

(h)—Yes.

Petitions for loan of Rs.1,000 and sanctioned in each Subdivision during 1958-59

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

547. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) How many petitions for loans of Rs.1,000 were these during the year 1958-59 for each Subdivision ?
- (b) How many of persons have been sanctioned such loans in each Subdivision during 1958-59 ?

- (c) What is the minimum period required for issuing loans ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

547. (a), (b) & (c)—A statement is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 114).

Regarding Industrial Sericulture and Weaving loans to the Public of Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

548. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the Industrial loan other than Sericulture and Weaving issued from the year 1947-48 to the end of 1958, year by year, to the people of Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (b) What is the total amount of such loan issued in the entire State for that period ?
- (c) What is the amount of industrial loan issued to the entire State during the last 10 years, year by year, up to an amount of Rs.1,000 ?
- (d) What is the amount of loan up to Rs.1,000 issued to the Dibrugarh Subdivision during a period of last 10 years, year by year ?
- (e) What is the amount of industrial loan exceeding Rs.1,000 to Rs.20,000 to the whole of State during a period of last 10 years year by year ?
- (f) What is the amount of such loan granted to the people of Dibrugarh Subdivision year by year for the last 10 years ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

548. (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f)—A statement is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 115).

Cattle disease during 1958

Shri DWIJESH CH. DEB SARMAH (Digboi) asked:

549. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of Cattle that died due to rinderpest in Assam during the year 1958 ?

- (b) The names of the places which were badly affected by this disease ?
- (c) Whether the Director, Veterinary visited these places ?
- (d) If so, which places he visited ?
- (e) Whether the disease was finally [diagonised to be Rinderpest ?
- (f) If so, what precautionary measure has been taken for the future ?

M. MOINUL HOQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Veterinary) replied:

549. (a)—Nine thousand, one hundred and forty-two.

(b)—A list is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 116).

(c)&(d)—Yes. No he visited Silchar, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Shillong and Jowai.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—In order to control the disease the Government have been taken up a Rinderpest Eradication Scheme with one Rinderpest Eradication Officer, 4 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 8 Supervisor Field Assistants and 60 Veterinary Field Assistants. Mass vaccination of the cattle has been undertaken from 1957 to the end of February, 1959. 42,56,068 cattle were vaccinated. The disease is brought under control. At some places due to public prejudice and lack of Co-operation, the vaccination of the entire cattle of the locality could not be done and as a result the disease could not be uprooted from those areas. Therefore the disease sometimes appears in sporadic form.

Forms in Dibrugarh Court

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

550. Will the Minister-in-charge of Printing and Stationery be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that sufficient number of forms are not available at Dibrugarh Court ?

(b) What are the rates for different forms authorised by the Government ?

PU LALMAWIA (Parliamentary Secretary) replied:

550. (a)—Government have no information.

(b)—A statement showing the existing rates of saleable forms is laid on the table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 117).

Number of Marketing Co-operative Societies in the State

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

551. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Marketing Co-operative Societies are there throughout the State of Assam?
- (b) What are their names (to be shown district-wise)?
- (c) Whether the Government finance the marketing societies by loan or subsidy?
- (d) If so, what were the financial help given by Government in the shape of loan or subsidy to each marketing societies uptil now?
- (e) Whether Government have taken precaution to see that the marketing societies to whom such finance and aid was given are the real marketing societies of the cultivators?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that there are many marketing societies of which members are dealers of millers?
- (g) If so, whether the Government will check the members of the marketing societies so that dealers and millers cannot become members of the marketing societies?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that there are many irregularities amongst the marketing societies?
- (i) If so, what are those irregularities in general?
- (j) What steps have been taken by Government to remove the irregularities that have been pointed at by the Government audit and revealed in audit reports?

(k) Whether irregularities pointed out have been removed ?

(l) If so, why not ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied:

551. (a)—There are in all 69 Primary Marketing Societies and one Apex Marketing Society.

(b)—List of Societies district-wise is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 118).

(c)—Government do not finance the marketing societies. The Assam Co-operative Apex Bank gives loans to them to carry on business. The societies which are taken up under the plan are given financial assistance by Government in the following ways:—

(a) by contributing to share capital at Rs.20,000 in 2 annual instalments,

(b) by granting a loan of Rs.15,000 and a subsidy of Rs.5,000 to each primary marketing society for construction of Godown,

(c) by granting subsidy for maintenance of managerial staff on the following scale:—

				Rs.
(i)	1st year	...	...	2,500
(ii)	2nd year	...	...	1,600
(iii)	3rd year	...	...	900

Under the Second Five Year Plan there is provision for giving financial assistance to only 60 Marketing Societies.

(d)—A list of societies that were given financial assistance with amounts given year-wise is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 118).

(e)—Yes.

(f)—It is reported that in some societies there are some such members.

(g)—Yes. A directive has already been issued prohibiting enrolment of traders, businessmen and millers as members of Marketing Societies.

(h)—Yes. There are some irregularities amongst the Marketing Societies.

(i)—These are generally as follows:—

Irregularity in account keeping ; outright purchases by the societies exceeding the limit fixed ; linking of credit with marketing lacking in some cases ; irregular enrolment of members, etc.

(j)—The Departmental officers are instructed to get the irregularities rectified and submit rectification reports to Registrar.

(k)—Yes, they have been removed in some cases. In other cases it will be removed in due course.

(l)—Does not arise.

Land Settlement plan of the Bidyanagar Tea Estate

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) asked :

552. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the present land settlement plan of the Bidyanagar Tea Estate is in conformity with the general procedure adopted in all gardens in Cachar ?

(b) Whether the garden area and the garden Zamin-dary area were cut off from the parent institution for the better and more efficient management of the garden and Labour force ?

(c) The number of representations and complaints received from the garden panchayat from time to time bringing to the notice of the Government of Benami settlements depriving the labour force to the interests of the management instead of the Estate ?

(d) Whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table the order of Shri R. B. Vagaiwalla, the then Deputy Commissioner, Cachar to distribute the land equally to all labourers ?

- (e) Whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table the list of the labourers who termed as encroachers on the Khas land and against whom cases were filed in the Court and some cases are still pending in the Court ?
- (f) Whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table the list of the labourers from whom lands have been taken and also the area of the land against each name ?
- (g) Whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table the list of the persons to whom lands have been allotted and also the area of the land against each of name ?
- (h) What is the rate of the premium charged for these lands ?
- (i) Whether this land settlement plan of the Bidyanagar Tea Estate has been approved by the Revenue Department ?
- (j) If not, who is responsible for formulating this Plan ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that the persons from whom the lands have been taken were prepared to pay the premium charged and that they submitted formal applications for the same ?
- (l) If so, why these persons were not given settlement of the lands ?
- (m) Whether it is a fact that some outsiders have also filed cases against the garden labourers ?
- (n) If so, who are the persons and what are the complaints against the Labourers ?
- (o) Whether these outsiders are in any way connected or benefited by the management ?
- (p) What is the area of the land termed as Khas land by the Management in Konagram, Amarkhal, Chunatigool, Bidyanagar, and Chamtiki ?
- (q) Whether any permission has been obtained from the Government to treat these areas as Khas lands.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

552. (a)—The procedure adopted in different gardens differs. So a comparison is not possible.

(b)—The garden area and the Zamindari areas are kept separate for management.

(c)—No such complaint or representation was received.

(d)—A copy of letter No. 47/VI-31/W, dated 8th July 1950 from Shri R. B. Vagaiwalla Deputy Commissioner, Cachar to the Manager Bidyanagar Tea Estate is laid on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 119).

(e)—A list of such labourers is laid on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 119).

(f)—The required list cannot be furnished now since the connected records are away with the Assam High Court in connection with a criminal case.

(g)—As stated (f) above, the information cannot be furnished at present.

(h)—No premium is charged for the free lands within tea areas, but for Zamindari areas the present rate of premium is Rs. 5 per Kedar (1 Kedar—1.08 bighas approximately.) Besides the premium a sum of Rs. 6 per Kedar is charged as Survey fees.

(i)—Yes.

(j)—Does not arise.

(k)—Yes. But the lands were given in settlement to those labourers who had not got sufficient land.

(l)—Because they had sufficient lands.

(m)—(n) & (o)—It is not known but enquiry will be made.

(p)—The area of the Khas land mostly tillas and jungles is as follows :—

Konagram $9\frac{1}{2}$ Hals (Approx.)

Amarkhal 1 Hal (Approx.)

Chunatigool

and

Chamartiki

Bidyanagar 88 Hals (Approx.)

(1 Hal—13 Bighas approximately.)

(q)—No permission is necessary.

Supply of fish to the fish market of Barpeta Town

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

553. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is any provision for supply of fish to the fish market of Barpeta town by the Mahaldars ?

(b) If so, what percentage of fish caught is to be supplied by them ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

553. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta has fixed the rate of daily supply of fish by the lessees to the Barpeta town market on quantity basis, and not on percentage basis.

A statement showing the quantity to be supplied by the lessees in different seasons of the year is laid on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 120).

Tour of the Director of Veterinary

Shri RAM NATH SARMA (Lumding) asked:

554. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Director of Veterinary toured outside the State during the year 1958 and if so, for what period and what was the purpose of tour on each occasion ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Director of Veterinary passed most of the Summer period in Shillong and if so, what is the special reason for the same ?

M. MOINUL HOQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Veterinary) replied:

554. (a)—Yes. A copy of tour dairies of the Director of Veterinary along with the purpose of Tour undertaken during 1958 is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. s. 121).

(b)—As the Veterinary Directorate is located at Gauhati, the Director of Veterinary Departments visit to Shillong is necessary. The purpose of tours at Shillong during Summer, 1958 is shown in the Tour dairies.

Date of joining and number of tour of the Director of Veterinary Assam

Shri DWIJESH CH. DEB SARMA (Digboi) asked:

555. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

(a) The date of joining his post by the present Veterinary Director, Government of Assam ?

(b) (i) The number of tours made (ii) days spent, (iii) places visited outside the State of Assam, (iv) and travelling and daily allowances drawn on these tours since his joining the post ?

(c) (i) The number of tours made and (ii) days spent, (iii) places visited by him inside the State since his joining the post of Director of Veterinary?

(d) The number of days he stayed at the headquarters (for which he did not draw any D. A.) out of the total period of his stay in Assam ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Veterinary) replied:

555. (a)—13th August, 1957.

(b)—(i) 8 (eight) from 13th August 1957 to 28th February 1959.

(ii) 118 days from 13th August 1957 to 28th February 1959.

(iii) A list is placed on the Library table.

(iv) Rs.6,397.70 nP.

(c)—(i) 15 (fifteen) since his joining from 13th August 1957 to 28th February 1959, (ii) 213 days since his joining from 13th August 1957 to 28th February 1959, (iii) A list is placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. s. I22).

(d)—234 days during the period from 13th August 1957 to 28th February 1959.

Number of youths registered in Employment Exchange Offices in the State of Assam

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked:

556. Will the Deputy Minister for Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of youths registered in Employment Exchange Offices in the State of Assam and in each district since 1955-56, 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59 ?
- (b) The number of such offices and the name of the places where these offices are located ?
- (c) The number of youths settled or engaged through the Employment Exchange since its administration was taken over by the State Government ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that the unemployed youths of Sibsagar Subdivision, are to go to Jorhat for registration ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware that the number of unemployed youths is increasing throughout the State and in Sibsagar Subdivision particularly ?
- (f) Whether Government have any device to collect statistics as to the number of unemployed in the State and district level ?
- (g) Whether Government will be pleased to open an unemployment Exchange Registration Office at Sibsagar ?

(h) If so, when ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister for Labour) replied:

556. (a)—A statement containing the information is placed in the library table. (Please see Library Register No. S. 123).

(b)—(i) 14.

(ii) Shillong, Gauhati, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Silchar, Digboi, Nowgong, Dhubri, Tezpur, Bongaigaon, Aijal, Tura, Sibsagar and Diphu.

(c)—5,911 upto February, 1959.

(d)—The District Employment Exchange, Sibsagar started functioning from the 27th January, 1959 and before that the youth of Sibsagar Subdivision had to go to Employment Exchange at Jorhat for registering their names for employment assistance or they might apply for postal registration to the officer concerned direct.

(e)—The Statistics received from the respective Employment Exchanges of the State revealed that the number of unemployed youth has been increasing.

(f)—With the establishment of Employment Exchanges in each district and implementation of the collection of Employment Market Information scheme a regular and continuous statistics are expected to be available.

(g) & (h)—One District Employment Exchange has been functioning at Sibsagar since 27th January, 1959.

Number of Weaving Co-operative Societies working in the area of Nalbari Marketing Organisation Centre

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari East) asked :

557. Will the Minister-in-charge, Sericulture be pleased to state—

(a) The number of Weaving Co-operative Societies working in the area of Nalbari Marketing Organisation Centre ?

(b) When the proposal was first submitted by the Department for upgrading the Marketing Centre at Nalbari to a full-fledged Emporium ?

(c) How long the proposal for acquisition of lands was submitted and at what stage the acquisition case stands now ?

(d) The date on which the proposal for acquisition of lands was submitted and (2) at what stage the acquisition case stands now ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the connected papers were mislaid in Office for more than two years ?

(f) Who are the Officers responsible for such state of affairs ?

- (g) Whether the Minister in his visit saw for himself that the Marketing Centre there was inadequately housed and staffed ?
- (h) When the upgrading of Nalbari Centre is expected to materialise ?
- (i) When the Centre can expect to have the departmental building ?
- (j) What are the Weaving Co-operative Societies of the area that applied for loan and what amounts were sanctioned and paid to each of them during the last two years ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that loans sanctioned to Barmunikona Weaving Co-operative Society, Bausiudoypress Weaving Co-operative Society, Bartari Weaving Co-operative Society, Mugthancla Multipurpose Society have not been disbursed within one year of sanction ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

557. (a)—Sixty-six Weaving Co-operative Societies are working in the area of the Nalbari Marketing Organisation Centre.

(b)—May, 1958.

(c)—The question of acquisition of land for construction of building is pending since August, 1956.

(d)—(1) On 21st August, 1956.

(2) It is proposed to finalise the acquisition proceedings early this year.

(e)—No.

(f)—Does not arise.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(i)—The construction of the building will be taken up as soon as possible after acquisition of the land.

(j)—Statement placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Registered No. S. 124)

(k)—Loans were sanctioned from the State Aid Industries Act Fund to Barmunikona Weaving and Tailoring Co-operative Society and Bausiodaipur B. K. S. S. for the year 1957-58. Loans could not be disbursed due to certain difficulties regarding securities to be furnished by the Societies. The matter is still under consideration of the Government. Regarding sanction of loan to Bartari Weaving Co-operative Society and Mukthanla Multipurpose Society, Government have no information.

Multipurpose High Schools in the State

Shri RAMNATH SARMA (Lunding) asked :

558. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Multipurpose High Schools have been started till now in the State ?
- (b) What different vocational teachings are being imparted and in which schools ?
- (c) Whether the Secondary Education Scheme has been given effect to ?
- (d) If so, whether necessary staff have been provided in the schools ?
- (e) If not, when Government is going to provide the same and what alternative arrangements have been made ?

Shri RADHIKARAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied :

558. (a)—Instructions have started in 13 (thirteen) schools. Six other schools have also been selected for upgrading. Buildings are being constructed.

(b)—List placed in the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. S. 125).

(c)—Yes being implemented.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Does not arise.

Regarding overtime works of the staff of the Finance (B) Department

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

559. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the staff of the Finance (B) Department are required to work beyond the regular office hours continuously for five months for so every year for preparation of State Budget Estimates ?
- (b) If so, whether the Chief Minister is aware that this overtime work interferes with the domestic or family obligation of low paid employees.
- (c) If the answer to (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government will give any extra remuneration to those employees ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that payment of remuneration to the staff of Finance (B) Department for the preparation of the State Budget Estimates was a very long standing practice ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the practice of granting of honorarium has been replaced by the grant of refreshment to those who work beyond the office hours ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the staff of Finance (B) Department do not take refreshment at Government cost out of protest against the above decision of the Government ?
- (g) What were the actual expenditure on account of honorarium and for refreshment for the year 1952-53 1954-55, 1955-56 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59 ?
- (h) Whether Government propose to stop the grant for refreshment and re-instate grant of honorarium to the staff who work overtime in this connection ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

559. (a)—The staff in the Finance 'B' Department have to work beyond the regular office hours during the period from November to February.

(b)—This has not been brought to the notice of Chief Minister.

(c)—The matter is under consideration.

(d)—Yes. The practice has been in vogue since 1948-49. Honoraria have been sanctioned for preparation of the budget estimates upto 1957-58.

(e)—Payment of honoraria is governed by Fundamental Rule 46 (b). Refreshment has been introduced in the Secretariat under restricted conditions for the Assistants who are required to work outside office hours.

(f)—An expenditure of Rs.500 for refreshment and Rs.2,000 for honorarium was incurred for the staff in the Finance (B) Department for preparation of the Budget Estimates of 1957-58. The proposal for 1958-59 is under consideration of Government. At no time Government have received any protest.

(g)—A statement is placed on the Library Table. (Please see Library Register No. S. 126).

(h)—The matter is under consideration of Government.

Persons applying for settlement of land through Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup who were rendered landless by the embankment of Puthimari River

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

560. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) How many persons applied for settlement of lands through Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, who were rendered landless by the embankment of Puthimari River ?

(b) How many of such persons have been provided with lands ?

(c) What is the total area of land rendered uncultivable by the said embankment ?

(d) Whether Government propose to take immediate steps for settlement of cultivable lands to those people who were rendered landless ?

561. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that one Shri Amrit Chandra Deka was allotted a plot of land in Saruchala Plan No.2 of Gauhati Town and the required premium for improvement of the land was paid by him ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Plan was abandoned as low lying area ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the same plot of land that was allotted to the said Amrit Dekha was subsequently settled with some other person ?
- (d) Whether the said Shri Amrit Chandra Dekha has been provided with another plot ?

562. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Shri Altaffudin Ahmed the then Deputy Commissioner of Gauhati was allotted a plot of land in Gauhati Town Settlement in 1956-57 in Plan No.28 Ulubari ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that after having obtained periodic patta immediately after settlement he sold the land to some other person ?
- (c) Whether it is also a fact that Shri Ahmed has been allotted another Plot of Government land in Shillong ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

560. (a)—70 families.

(b)—10 families were allotted land at $2\frac{1}{2}$ Kathas each.

(c)—More or less 700 bighas.

(d)—Yes, they will be allowed settlement of cultivable land according to the policy laid down in Government Resolution No.RSS.205/58, dated 25th September 1958. A copy of which is laid on the Library Table Government have already issued rehabilitation loan to these people.

561. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No.

(d)—Settlement of a plot of land with Shri Amrit Chandra Dekha in the new Saruchala plan is under consideration of the Government.

562. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—No.

**Number of persons who were granted licences to
purchase and Stock Paddy Grain from
Cultivators this year**

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

563. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) How many persons (district-wise) have been granted licences to purchase and stock paddy grain from the cultivators this year?
- (b) Who are they?
- (c) What are the qualifications and conditions required to obtain such licence?
- (d) Whether any deposit of cash money or surety, or mortgage of property is generally taken by the Government from the licensee before issuing such licence?
- (e) What is the guard against violation of terms, and principles laid down by the Government?

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

563. (a)—The numbers of persons including Mills allowed to purchase and stock paddy from cultivators district-wise are as follows :—

1. Kamrup District	...	...	...	72
2. Nowgong "	...	...	...	1
3. Darrang "	...	...	...	152
4. Cachar "	...	...	...	62 (36 withdrawn since 24th February 1959 for direct purchase by Government).
5. Lakhimpur District	...	...	...	117
6. Goalpara "	...	...	...	168
7. Sibsagar "	...	...	...	Detailed report awaited.

(b)—A statement is placed on the Library table.
(Please see Library Register No. S. 127.)

(c)—No qualifications and conditions for obtaining licences to deal in foodgrains are prescribed in the Assam Foodgrains (Licensing and Control) Order, but the procedure followed in this respect is that such persons or firms who are, in this line of business are generally granted licences, if there is nothing against them.

(d)—Licencees are required to supply paddy to Government by entering into contract with Government and for this purpose they are required to furnish a security deposit varying from Rs.250 to Rs.1,000 which is liable to be forfeited in part or whole if the licencees fail to supply the quantity of paddy contracted for.

(e)—Violation of any provisions of the Assam Foodgrains (Licensing and Control) Order under which licenses are issued are punishable under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Allotment of Paddy to Sobansari Circle

Shri MAHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked:

564. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is fact that two thousand maunds of paddy were allotted to Sobansari Circle either in the end of November or in the beginning of December 1958, for cheap grain shop ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that the Lahi variety of Sali paddy is harvested from the beginning of November ?

(c) If so, why this huge quantity of paddy was issued hurriedly for which Government had to incur a heavy expenditure by way of subsidy and transport cost ?

(d) What was the transport cost who was the dealer and whether the paddy was actually distributed there ?

(e) Whether Government propose to get a confidential enquiry made about the disposal of this quantity of paddy and being to book the persons responsible for this deal ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

564. (a)—4,000 maunds of old Sali Paddy were allotted for distribution through cheap grain shops from 13th December 1958.

(b) & (c)—Yes. But the aforesaid paddy have been allotted on demand for riverine areas inhabited by Miri people who depend mainly on Ahu Cultivation.

(d)—Transport cost was Rs.14,000 and the dealer was Shri Rameswar Agrawala of Ghilamara. As regards actual distribution the reports of the cheap grain dealers are being awaited.

(e)—Government have no information about any maldistribution or misappropriation of the paddy sanctioned for distribution to the needy flood-affected people. If the hon. Member can give specific instance of any maldistribution or misappropriation Government will surely take necessary steps against the persons responsible for maldistribution or misappropriation.

Increase pay to all Primary School Teachers under School Board

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

565. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state

(a) Whether it is a fact that all Primary School teachers under School Board were granted increased pay with effect from 1st October, 1956?

(b) Whether the proposal of giving increased pay to primary teachers covered all primary teachers?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Primary School teachers of Government Lower Primary Schools in Murkongsellek Transferred Area have not yet been granted the increased pay?

(d) Whether it is a fact that a resolution was adopted in the 10th session of the Dibrugarh District Primary Teachers' Conference held on 16th March, 1958 at Margherita with Shri Nilomoni Phukan on the chair drawing the attention of the authorities to grant increased rate of pay to the teachers of Government Lower Primary Schools in Transferred Areas?

- (e) Whether Government propose to include these teachers of Government Lower Primary Schools in the scheme of increased pay ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

565. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c) and (d)—A report is being called for.

(e)—Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Regarding Venture Lower Primary School in Doom Dooma known as Nazirating Lower Primary School

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

566. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is a Venture Lower Primary School in Doom Dooma Mauza known as Nazirating Lower Primary School with a number of students more than 50 ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that the School is situated at a rehabilitated village and most of the students belong to Moran Tribe which is one of the most backward classes in the State ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that there is no Lower Primary School within a radius of three miles ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Government sanctioned grants to take over this School by the Dibrugarh School Board last year ?
- (e) If so, why the School has not yet been taken over ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to issue instructions to the School Board, Dibrugarh to take over this School with retrospective effect from 1st April, 1959 ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

566. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes, the Secretary, School Board was ordered to take over this School from 1st October, 1958 under the India Government Scheme of "Relief to Educated Unemployment".

(e)—The Secretary, School Board is being asked to furnish report why the grant has not been paid.

(f)—The School can not be taken over from 1st April, 1958, but it will be taken over from 1st October, 1958, if it has not already been taken over as directed.

Establishment of a Venture Lower Primary School at Hahkhathi village in Saikhowa Mauza

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

567. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a Venture Lower Primary School was established at Hahkhathi village in Saikhowa Mauza, a compulsory primary education area in 1956 or before ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the village is inhabited by most backward people and there is no Lower Primary School within a radius of more than 2 miles ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that the number of students there was more than 50 and the communication from here to the nearest village where a Lower Primary School is situated is very difficult ?

(d) Whether Government propose to sanction grant to take over this Lower Primary School by the School Board with immediate effect ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

567. (a)—Yes.

(b)—It may be so, Government have no information.

(c)—Enrolment is 50 ; but the nature of communication to the nearest School, is not known.

(d)—The School will be considered when funds become available to take over more Venture Schools.

Establishment of a Venture Lower Primary School in Buridihing known as Tinali Nagaon Lower Primary School

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

568. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a Venture Lower Primary School was established in Buridihing Mauza known as Tinali Nagaon Lower Primary School?

(b) Whether Government are aware that there is no other such school within a radius of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles and communication to the nearest school is very difficult?

(c) Whether Government propose to sanction grant to take over this School by the School Board?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

568. (a)—There is a School named Nagaon Lower Primary School.

(b)—It may be so. Information has been called for.

(c)—The Secretary, School Board has been asked to take over the School from 1st October, 1958 under the "Educated Unemployment Scheme".

Splitting up of the Gauhati Subdivisional School Board into three Units

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

569. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state what steps have been taken to split up Gauhati Subdivisional School Board into three Units as was assured in the Assembly in November, 1957 and stated to be being examined in reply to Unstarred Question No.159 on 13th March, 1958 ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

569. Action to split up the Gauhati School Board could not be taken up for want of funds. The matter however is still being examined.

Extension of Benefits to Teachers working in the Lower Primary Sections of Middle Vernacular Schools like other Lower Primary Boards employed under the same School Boards

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI asked :

570. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that most of the Middle Vernacular Schools of the State there is also a Lower Primary Section ?
- (b) Whether the teachers working in the Lower Primary Sections of Middle Vernacular Schools are entitled to get the benefits extended to the teachers of other Lower Primary Schools employed under the same School Boards ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that teachers of Lower Primary Schools are also transferred to Middle Vernacular Schools in the interest of public service ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the untrained teachers of Lower Primary Schools who have been in service continually for more than 15 years or whose age exceeded 40 years have been recognised as trained teachers so far as their pay and prospects are concerned ?

- (e) Whether it is a fact that some School Boards, *e. g.*, Gauhati have not extended this benefit to many teachers of the above description who formerly served in Lower Primary Schools but were subsequently transferred to Middle Vernacular Schools managed by the same School Board and thereby are getting less pay than what they would have got had they been in Lower Primary Schools and also get less pay than teachers who are junior to them in service ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that this anomaly has been brought to the notice of the Education Minister and to the Department by the teachers but no action has been taken to redress their grievances ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to remove this discrepancy with retrospective effect ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

570. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Lower Primary Section and Middle Vernacular Section of Middle Vernacular Schools are not dealt with separately. There are no separate teachers for Lower Primary Section only. The School is treated as one unit. Any benefit applicable to the Middle Vernacular School is enjoyed by all the teachers. So all the benefit enjoyed in a Lower Primary School may not be applicable in case of Middle Vernacular Schools.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes, the benefit has been given to teachers of the category upto 1st October 1956. After 1st October, 1956 every teacher must be trained to be treated as trained teacher.

(e)—Information is not available and an enquiry is being made if there is such cases.

(f)—Yes, such representation has been received and an enquiry is being made on such verbal and written representation.

(g)—The case will be examined on merit on receiving the reports.

Numbers of officers in the Secretariat attached to Co operative, Cottage Industries, Weaving and Sericulture, Rural Development Departments, etc.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY [(Nalbari East) asked :

571. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware of the public feeling that some of the Department particularly the Secretariat, have become top heavy ?

(b) How many officers were there on the first January 1959 for holding the offices of Secretary, Co-operative Department, Secretary, Cottage Industries, Secretary, Weaving and Sericulture, Secretary, Rural Development, Secretary, Khadi and Village Industries Board, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Director of Cottage Industries, Director of Weaving and Sericulture, Director of Rural Development and who were the personnel ?

(c) How many officers were there on 1st January 1959 holding the above posts showing the different offices held, by each of them and who are the personnel ?

(d) Whether Government are aware of the feeling of the people who are to be in touch with these Departments that efficiency of work in these Departments has not at all increased rather deteriorated ?

(e) Whether there are Departments where the work do not justify the alteration of separate Secretary or the head of the Department ?

(f) If so, what are those Department ?

(g) Whether Government propose to reorganise the Department or remove top heaviness ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied—

571—(a)—Government are not aware of any such public feeling except the views expressed by some hon. Members during the Budget discussions.

(b)—6 (six).

(1) Secretary, Co-operative Department—Shri M. N. Phukan, I.A.S.

(2) Secretary, Cottage Industries Department and Khadi and Village Industries Board—Shri S.M. Rahman, I.A.S.

(3) Secretary, Panchayat (Rural Development) and *Ex-officio* Director, Rural Development—Shri E. H. Pakyntein, I.A.S.

(4) Registrar, Co-operative Societies—Shri K. K. Phukan, I.A.S.

(5) Director of Weaving and Sericulture—Shri R. Sarma.

(6) Director of Cottage Industries—Shri K.V. Srinivasan.

(c) 6 as already stated above—

(1) M.N. Phukan, I.A.S.—Secretary, Agriculture, Veterinary, Pisciculture, Soil Conservation and Co-operative Departments.

(2) S.M. Rahman, I.A.S.—Secretary, Cottage Industries, Sericulture and Weaving, Khadi and Village Industries Departments.

(3) E.H. Pakyntein, I.A.S.—Secretary, Panchayat, L.S.-G., Town and Country Planning, Housing, Excise and Registration Departments and *Ex-officio* Director, Rural Development.

(4) K.K. Phukan, I.A.S.—Registrar, Co-operative Societies.

(5) R. Sarma,—Director, Sericulture and Weaving.

(6) K.V. Srinivasan,—Director of Industries including Major and Cottage Industries.

(d)—Government are not aware.

(e)—No.

(f) and (g)—Do not arise.

Regarding the benefits will be derived from the construction of Rangagora and Dibrugarh Road

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked:

572. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the alignment of the alternative road to keep up the link between Rangagora Road and Dibrugarh was made for a curve at Konaigaon in Lahoal Mauza?

(b) Whether it is a fact that by this curve it would save the fallow land of Tea Garden grants and will go over land belonging to a number of petty cultivators?

(c) Whether Government propose to make new alignment saving the land of petty cultivators?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. and B.)] replied:

572 (a)—Yes, to avoid a few undesirable curves, a diversion with a mooth curve was proposed and aligned accordingly, but no work has been done yet on it.

(b)—The proposed alignment (work not done) of the curve falls on Tea Garden land as well as some other cultivators' land. So Tea Garden fallow land also would not be saved.

(c)—It is under further investigation to see how major portion of private land can be saved.

Regarding shortage of raw-materials to construct Central Library, Shillong

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) asked:

573. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it was the Governments original idea that the Central State Library building at Shillong would be constructed within three months from the date of its laying the foundation stone by the Chief Minister?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the construction of the building could not be completed even within thirty-six months?

(c) Whether the building was initially designed to have asbestos roofing, but subsequently it was changed to C. I. Sheet roofing?

(d) Whether in spite of the above lowering of specification, the contractors' bill under this head was increased, rather than decreased?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the frame-work, for ceiling beading and penaling and rises of the auditorium flooring are lower than contracted specifications?

(f) Whether it was revealed in audit that materials like asbestos, hardware goods, etc., which were to be procured by the contractors themselves were actually supplied from the Public Works Department Stores and that too at rates which were far below the prevailing market rates for these materials?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. and B.)] replied:

573(a)—No. As per terms of tenders the work was to be completed within 31st March, 1957, *i. e.*, within 14th months from the date of laying the foundation-stone. Extension of time was granted to the contractors because of various modifications and additions and alterations for which revised administrative approval had to be accorded in February, 1958.

(b)—No. The work was initially completed in June, 1958, but rectification of finishing work in some items is still in progress.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—C. I. Sheets roofing is not considered inferior to A. C. Sheets roofing. The rate for C. I. Sheets roofing is always higher than that of A. C. Sheets roofing and the difference varies according to issue rates of the respective material.

(e)—No.

(f)—No A. C. Sheet was shown to be issued as per tender notice but materials like steel, cement, etc., had to be issued to the contractors on cash payment as and when available to avoid delay in execution.

Regarding steel quota to Industrial purpose

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

574. Will the Minister-in-charge of Major Industries be pleased to state—

(a) What is the quota of steel allotted to the State for Industrial purpose last year?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the entire quota for this State was not supplied or imported to Assam?

(c) The quotas of steel allotted for different purposes and the amount of steel imported into the State against each quota year by year since 1st April, 1957.

(d) Whether it is a fact that the newly started private Industries are finding difficulties in getting adequate supply of steel ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied :

574. (a)—Steel processing Industries quota ... 735 tons.

Small Scale Industries quota ... 1952 "

Industries situated with the Indus- 240 "

trial estate.

Public Industries development No informa-
tion.

For scrap Inf o r m a-
tion not
ready.

(b) (i)—Against the S. P. I. quota—Information is not ready.

(ii)—Small Scale Industries quota and Industrial estate quota are brought on Government accounts by the Director of Consumer Goods, Assam. No quota is received in the year 1958-59.

(iii)—P. I. D. quota—No information.

(e)—Information is not ready.

(d)—Yes.

Regarding royalty of timber to Educational Institutions

Shri TANKESWAR CHETIA (Nazira) asked :

575. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

(a) The quantity fixed for each district of Assam to be given as free grant of timber to public Institutions ?

- (b) The number of petitions granted during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59 district-wise ?
- (c) The number of such permits actually operated during those years ?
- (d) The number of permits granted during 1958-59 for timber free of royalty to the Educational Institutions district-wise to be operated from the Reserve Forests and also from the U. G. S. F. ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to grant free permits for timber to Educational Institutions which receive non-recurring grants for construction of buildings and hostels for the greater interest of education ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Forests) replied :

575. (a)—Quantity fixed for each district is in terms of royalty value only. It is not clear for which year the hon. Member wants the particular.

(b)—The number of petitions granted in each district during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59, are as follows :—

Name of district	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
Lakhimpur Division ..	19 petitions.	15 petitions.	18 petitions.
Sibsagar	12 „	7 „	25 „
Nowgong Division	23 „	8 „	5 „
Cachar Division	8 „	6 „	5 „
Darrang Division	12 „	10 „	9 „
Kamrup Division	16 „	19 „	52 „
Goalpara (East and West) Division.	14 „	14 „	21 „

Hill Districts

Khasi and Jaintia Hills Division.	2 petitions.	3 petitions.	2 petitions.
Garo Hills Division ...	Nil.	3 „	5 „
Mizo	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Mikir and North Cachar Hills.	Nil.	1 petition.	Nil.

(c)—The number of permits actually operated during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59 are as follows :—

Name of district	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
Lakhimpur Division ...	9	10	5
Sibsagar Division	4	4	3
Nowgong Division	22	7	4
Cachar Division	4	5	1
Darrang Division	3	5	4
Kamrup Division	16	12	44
Goalpara (East and West) Division.	7	10	7
Garohills Division ..	Nil.	3	5
Khasi and Jaintia Hills Division.	2	3	1

(d)—The number of permits granted during 1958-59 to the Educational Institutions in each district are as follows :—

Name of district	U. S. F.	Reserve Forest	Total
Lakhimpur Division ..	7	4	11
Sibsagar Division ...	4	5	9
Nowgong Division ..	1	Nil.	1
Cachar Division ..	Nil.	1	1
Darrang Division ..	1	4	5
Goalpara (East and West) Division.	5	1	6
Kamrup Division	3	3	6
Khasi and Jaintia Hills Division.	Nil.	2	2
Garohills Division ...	4	Nil.	4

(c)—Yes. Grant of free permits in such cases being determined on the merits of each case and subject to availability of funds for the purpose.

A Veterinary Hospital for Barpeta Town

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

576. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a Veterinary Hospital was sanctioned for Barpeta Town ?
- (b) If so, whether any site was selected ?
- (c) When the work for construction of the building of this hospital will be started ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied:

576. (a), (b) & (c)—The question of establishing a Veterinary Hospital is under consideration of the Government.

Land belonging to one Kardas Khan of Jania

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

577. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) In what state the land (both annual patta land and periodic patta land) belonging to one Kardas Khan of Jania Mouza of Barpeta Sub-division, now lies ?
- (b) The area of land for which he had patta both annual and periodic ?
- (c) Whether this Kardas Khan was an absconder till being implicated in a criminal case under section 302, Indian Penal Code, in 1950 disturbances ?
- (d) If so, why his lands are not confiscated yet ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware that his annual patta lands, the settlements of which have been cancelled by the Government are sold by his agent at his own sweet will ?

(f) If not, whether Government propose to enquire into it ?

(g) Whether there are any other Sarkari Khas lands, other than those which are made khas by cancellation of annual pattas, in possession of either Kardas Khan or his brother Kalukhan in Jania Mouza or in Ghilajari Mouza ?

(h) Whether Government are aware that some prominent persons of a particular political party of Barpeta Town have taken possession of about hundred bighas of Kardas Khan and Kalu Khan's lands made Sarkari by the Government and who are digging big pits thereon to shown as fisheries ?

(i) If so, whether Government propose to evict those persons ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

577. (a) to (i)—Information have called for.

Encroachment of Panbari, Galandi, Habi and Galandi Shah P. G. Reserves and V. G. Reserves

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

578. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) How many times Panbari, Galandi, Habi and Galandi Shah Bagisha P. G. Reserves or V. G. Reserves as the case may be have been encroached and the encroacher evicted ?

(b) Whether it is the land policy of the Government to evict the encroacher without taking steps for settlement of such land ?

(c) Whether the encroachers of the Ruhinikash V. G. R. have been temporarily settled by Government ?

(d) Whether there is any such order from the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang not to evict the settlers from the said V. G. R. unless and until they are settled elsewhere with cultivable lands ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that a large number of people from Nowgong District have lately been settled with land in the Dalgaon Mouza and whereas no settlement has been made with local flood affected and other landless cultivators ?

(f) If so, why ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

578. (a) to (f)—Information have been called for.

Petition for constitution of Grazing Ground by the name of Bakari Chapari

Shri DHIRSINGH DEURI [Laharighat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

579. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to

(a) Whether the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong received a public petition submitted by the people of Village Gunamara No. I and No. II in Tetelia Mauza for constitution of a grazing ground by the name of Bakari Chapari ?

(b) Whether any enquiry was made by the Deputy Commissioner to that effect ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner was pleased to pass an order, dated 30th May 1952 for constitution of a Village Grazing Ground ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the Sub-Deputy Collector concerned failed to submit a proposal in due course though Shrikanta Medhi and others of the said village again filed a Petition

No. ³¹⁵1958 159, dated 30th July 1958 ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that some people of neighbouring villages encroached upon the proposed grazing ground ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

579. (a) to (e)—Information have been called for.

Regarding Lands in Barpeta Town

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

580. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of families in Barpeta Town at Present ?

(b) Area of lands (Bigha-wise), taken by Government for the extension of Barpeta Town in:—

(1) Metuakichi village ;

(2) Jati village ;

(3) Ganakkuchi village ;

(4) Budorurtup village ; and

(5) Nakhandarpar Area ?

(c) Area of land allotted to each family in those villages under extension scheme of Barpeta Town, and the number of families already provided with lands.

(d) Why Sankuchi, Dewrikuchi, Dengarkuchi (the southern part of the village), Danakuchi, Dhanbandha villages are not yet included in Barpeta Town Extension Scheme ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that these areas can be developed into Town easily and conveniently without causing hardship to the villagers of other neighbouring villages ?

(f) Whether Government are aware (i) that many old settlers who have residences in Metuakichi and Jati (now included in Town Extension block) villages are not allotted with their "Bhithis" which they raised above water-level by considerable expenses and labour ?

- (g) Whether Government are aware that their Bhithis have been given to other allottees ?
- (h) Whether Government are aware that they are given low lands elsewhere within the Town extension blocks ?
- (i) If so, why such injustice is done to those poor persons and who is responsible for it ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that those poor people have been praying to Government since many years back to give them such settlement of land so that the Bhithis may fall within their allotments ?
- (k) If so, whether Government proposed to review the settlement in those two villages (Matuakuchi and Jati), with a view to give old settlers their home-stead lands ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

580.—Informations have been called for from the local officers.

Flood and erosion-affected cultivators of Mangaldai Subdivision

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked:

581. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there is a great number of flood- and erosion-affected cultivators in the Mangaldai Subdivision ?
- (b) If so, how long they are in such condition ?
- (c) What is the number of flood and erosion-affected families in the Subdivision ?
- (d) What steps have so far been taken by the Government to settle these affected families else where ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

581. (a) to (d) — Information has been called for.

Settlement of a plot of land measuring 500 bighas in Dalgaon Mauza in Mangaldai Subdivision

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

582. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a plot of land measuring 500 (five hundred) bighas in Dalgaon Mauza, Mangaldai, had been settled with some Scheduled Caste people last year?
- (b) If so, whether the allottees have taken possession of the said land?
- (c) If not, why their allotment has not yet been cancelled and distributed to others?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that the above settlement was made by depriving the original landless settlers of the locality?
- (e) If so, whether Government propose to settle the land in question with the original settlers by cancelling the allotment of the Scheduled Caste people?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

582.—Information has been called for from the local officer.

Re: Former Settlement Kanangoe of Barpeta Circle

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

583. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether public petitions alleging corruptions against the former Settlement Kanangoe of Barpeta Circle have lately been received?
- (b) If so, how many petitions have been filed and what action has been taken against him?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied.

583.—Information has been called for from the local officer.

**Re: Eviction of Occupant Cultivators Farm Land at
Hatkholā Gaon in Moderkhat Mouza**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked:

584. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that land covered by dag Nos. 449, 506 and 507 amounting to 22 bighas, 4 kathas and 6 lessas at Hatkhola Gaon in Moderkhat Mouza belonged to Jogendra Goswami, Puspeswari Goswami and others up to 5th March 1947 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the occupant cultivators were evicted by the tea planter of Moderkhat Tea Estate was managed to get mutation of these land in the name of his son ?
- (c) On what ground the land was transferred to this non-cultivators ?
- (d) Whether heirs of these land or joint Pattadars are still alive ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that the notice of mutation was neither received by the owners of land nor by the occupant cultivators ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to make an enquiry into the matter ?

585. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the then Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur, Sri N. K. Rustamjee, asked the Police to enquire about the allegations of the cultivators about forceful occupation of land belonging to them by the proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Estate and about mutation of the same in his name or in the names of his relatives ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that one Sub-Inspector of Police of Dibrugarh Police Station enquired on 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th December, 1947 and on 6th, 7th and 8th January, 1949 and sent up 82 (eighty-two) cases against this tea planter ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that about 37 cases out of these 82 cases were tried in the Court of Additional Deputy Commssioner, Dibrugarh ?
- (d) If so, what happened to these cases ?
- (e) Whether the affected parties were informed of the results of these cases so long ?

586. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Grant Nos.196 and 197 or other grants of Phukanbari Tea Estate in Kheremia Mouza in Naharkatia Circle were requisitioned for landless cultivators ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Sub-Deputy Collector, Naharkatia Circle gave them possession in 1953 or so, clearly demarcating the boundaries of the land in question ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that about 135 families paid revenue or primium in the year 1955 for these lands in the office of the Sub-Deputy Collector, Dibrugarh ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that certain families also paid revenue or premium to Government in 1956-57 for some of these lands ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that some of these lands were under the occupation of the cultivators since 1941 or before and that the owner and the tea planter, had been realising rent regularly granting receipts since 1944 till 1952 ?

- (f) Whether Government are aware that the proprietor of the said Tea Company is realising rent even now but no receipt is given for the same ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that Government granted land and gave possession to 166 earthquake and flood devastated families and to other landless persons in Grant Nos.196 and 197 of Phukanbari Tea Estate ?
- (h) Whether Government are aware or received complaints to the effect that the proprietor of Phukanbari Tea Estate now and then engages his Chowkidars and other persons to take away forcibly crops and other property belonging to these cultivators ?
- (i) Whether Government are aware that the Police have been informed about the action of the proprietor of Phukanbari Tea Estate ?
- (j) If so, what are the allegations made by the people to the Officer-in-charge of Bordubi Police Station and what is the result of the Police investigations ?
- (k) Whether Government are aware of the difficulties of the cultivators and tenants who are occupying land in different grants of Phukanbari Tea Estate ?
- (l) Whether Government propose to take necessary steps to save these people from the harassment of this tea planter as stated above ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

584. (a) to (f) — Information have been called for.

585. (a) to (e) — Information have been called for.

586. () to (l) — Information have been called for.

Regarding Supplementary Grant to Junior Basic School

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

587. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a certain amount was sanctioned to Kakapathar Junior Basic School for the purpose of constructing school building with condition of 25 per cent public contribution by lying down certain specification ?

- (b) Whether Government are aware that the amount required for the building according to Public Works Department rate for the specification is more than double the fund allotted for the purpose ?
- (c) If so, from which source this additional amount incurred would come ?
- (d) Whether there is any provision of supplementary grant for the purpose ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

587. (a), (b), (c) & (d)—Information is being collected.

Regarding non-recurring grant to Khoragarh Middle English School, Sibsagar

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

588. Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is granting any non-recurring grant for construction of building, to Khoragarh Middle English School in Sibsagar Sub-division ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Addl. Deputy Inspector of Schools, Sibsagar asked the school committee (*vide* letter No.6966-70, dated Sibsagar, the 12th August, 1957) to submit particulars with plans and estimates ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that those necessary particulars were submitted in time ?
- (d) If so, why Government is delaying in granting non-recurring aid to the institution ?
- (e) Whether Government will be pleased to sanction the grant at the earliest ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

588. (a)—No.

(b), (c) & (d)—Informations are being collected.

(e)—This will be considered on receipt of proposal from the Deputy Inspector of Schools.

Share Capital Loan to Co-operative Society under Tihu Circle

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

589. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the following Co-operative Weaving Societies under the Tihu Circle have been given share capital loan and necessary accessories ?

(i) Sudra Makibaha Weaving Co-operative Societies ;
and

(ii) Pachim-Kathalmura Weaving Co-operative Society ?

(b) If the reply to (a) above be in the negative the reasons for not doing so ?

(c) Whether steps will be taken to provide share capital loan and necessary accessories to the above mentioned societies at an early date ?

(d) If not, why not ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

589. (a)—Yes.

(i) Sudra Makhibaha Weaving Co-operative Society Limited, was given a share capital loan of Rs.180 in 1958-59. No accessories have been given as yet.

(ii) A share capital loan of Rs.150 is under issue to Kathalmara Sipini Co-operative Limited, there is no application in the name Pachimkathalmari B. K. S. S.

Looms and accessories were given free of cost as follows to Kathalmura Sipini Co-operative Limited—

Sleys ...	...	...	...	4 Nos.
Reeds ...	...	...	...	9 "
Healds ...	...	...	...	4 "

(b)—Reasons already stated above.

(c)—Yes on receipt of application from the societies.

(d)—Does not arise.

Regarding Extension of Bhani-Simlaguri Road, Barpeta

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

590. Will the Minister, Public Works Department, (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether extension work of Bhani-Simlaguri Road to meet the Barpeta-Bhowanipur Road will be taken up ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that local public submitted petitions to the Executive Engineer, Barpeta, on 29th May, 1956 and on January, 1957 and to the Superintending Engineer, in January, 1957 regarding the construction work of the same road ?

(d) What is the length of that part of the road to be extended ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Departments) Roads and Buildings Wing] replied :

590. (a)—There is no such proposal.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—One thousand running feet.

Regarding Grant-in-aid to Venture Middle English School to different Schools

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked :

591. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the principle for sanctioning grant-in-aid to Venture Middle English Schools ?
- (b) Whether Government have received several representations and applications in prescribed form, submitted through appropriate authority for grant-in-aid to the following Venture Middle English Schools of Tezpur Subdivision—
 - (i) Haleswar Middle English School ;
 - (ii) Dalanggiri Middle English School ;
 - (iii) Pabhoi Middle English School ;
 - (iv) Kharasimalu Middle English School ; and
 - (v) Barsela Middle English School.
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Deputy Inspector of Schools inspected all these Middle English Schools and recommended grant-in-aid for these Schools ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that some of these schools were visited by the Deputy Minister, Education who recommended sanction of grant-in-aid in favour of these schools ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the public submitted representations to the Minister, Education direct during the last visit to Tezpur for sanction of grant-in-aid to these schools ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that these schools are situated amongst Backward Classes specially amongst tribals and *ex-labour* population who are too poor to maintain the schools for a long time ?
- (g) Whether Government will be pleased to sanction grant-in-aid to these Middle English Schools ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

591. (a)—Recurring Grant-in-aid is sanctioned to recognised Middle English Schools and not to Venture Middle English Schools in accordance with the principle and conditions of grant-in-aid as published in Notification No.117, dated the 15th October, 1957 in the *Assam Gazette*.

(b)—Particulars required for consideration of grant-in-aid have been received for only from the school at (i) and not from the others.

(c)—Government have no information.

(d)—Deputy Minister, Education visited the school at (i) only and not the others.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—Not aware.

(g)—Yes, if they are eligible, according to the principles and conditions of grant-in-aid.

Regarding the accommodation at Dhubri Government High English School

Shri TAMIZUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri) asked:

592. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be please to state—

- (a) Whether any representation was lately received by the Government from the Dhubri Government High School Authority for providing accommodations to the students by extension of the School Building and for providing furniture like chair, bench, desks, etc. ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that for proper want of accommodation many students are not getting admission in that school ?
- (c) What is the number of the students at present in above High School, number of students be stated separately class by class ?
- (d) Whether the chairs, benches and desks are sufficient to meet the requirement ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

592. (a)—No.

(b)—It is a common occurrence for every Government High School.

(c)—The total number is 649.

Class by class areas follows:—

Class	X-A	...	...	...	...	45
"	X-B	...	..	...	...	46
"	IX-A	...	...	...	...	42
"	IX-B	...	...	...	...	49
"	VIII-A	...	...	...	...	51
"	VIII-B	...	...	...	...	49
"	VII-A	...	...	...	...	45
"	VII-B	...	...	...	...	45
"	VI-A	...	...	...	...	45
"	VI-B	...	...	...	...	44
"	V-A	...	...	...	...	36
"	V-B	...	...	...	...	31
"	V-C	...	...	...	...	35
"	IV-A	...	...	...	...	28
"	IV-B	...	...	...	...	30
"	IV-C	...	...	...	...	28

(d)—Yes,

Regarding Behali Co-operative Farm, Tezpur**Shri BISHNULAL UPADHYAYA (Gohpur)** asked :

593. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture Co-operative be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether there is any Multi-purpose Co-operative Farm at Behali in Tezpur Subdivision?
- (b) If so, whether it is a Registered Farm?
- (c) When it was formed and registered?
- (d) What are the aims and objects of the said Farm ?
- (e) Who are the names of members of the said Farm ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Minister, Agriculture and Co-operative visited the area of its operation which was said to have been near Bihmari Forest ?
- (g) Whether the Minister could reach the site of the Farm on that day and see the crops standing thereon ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that the Farm in question did not actually exist at that time ?
- (i) When and what amount of loan was granted to it for expansion of agricultural activities ?
- (j) For what purpose the loan was utilised ?
- (k) What property was offered as security against this loan ?
- (l) Whether the management Committee of this Farm was ever been called and consulted since its inspection ?
- (m) If so, when and how many time ?
- (n) Whether any other agriculturist will be allowed to enrol as its member ?
- (o) Whether any Government Officer has inspected the progress of the Farm and advised the management Committee to rectify its defects ?

- (p) Whether Government will be pleased to take early steps to regularise the irregularities which have taken place therein and thereby give guidance to the Committee for its smooth functioning and attaining its objectives ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

593. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—The society was organised in the Inaugural General Meeting held on 30th April, 1955 and registered in the Office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Assam on 15th October, 1955.

(d)—The aims and objects of the Society are enjoined in Bye-law No.4. The objects of the Society are to do all things necessary to promote and develop Co-operative farming in so far as this is in the economic and cultural interests of members and in particular.

- (i) to acquire land by settlement, lease, purchase, loan, gift, etc., and to improve such land where necessary;
- (ii) to allot land to members for their houses and farms and to assist them to settle thereon;
- (iii) to advise and help members in the construction of their houses and to provide amenities such as roads, water supply, drainage, lighting, fuel, building materials etc., and, also schools dispensaries, recreational facilities, etc., where required;
- (iv) to advise and help members in the management of their farms and to provide a scientific crop programme, good seed, manure, fertilisers, irrigation, livestock, implements, agricultural machinery and other supplies, and to help in the marketing of their agricultural produce and cottage industries products ;
- (v) to provide means for collective farming, cottage industries and other subsidiary occupations ;
- (vi) to conduct cultivation with the help of tractor ; and

(vii) to run Rice Mill and Oil Mill as Cottage Industries.

(e)—The names of members are—

(1) Village—Than Behali.

1. Shri Anandeswar Barua.

2. Shri Golap Chandra Baruah.

3. Shri Purneswar Baruah.

4. Shrimati Labanya Probha Baruah.

5. Shrimati Phuleswari Baruah.

6. Shri Ashutosh Bhattacharjee.

7. Shri Ajatan Tati.

8. Shri Bhokonda Mura.

(2) Village—Kulagurigaon.

9. Shri Jadubar Misir.

(3) Village—Gangmouthan.

10. Shri Amarnath Upadhyaya.

11. Shri Kumud Chandra Sarmah.

(4) Village—Telengania.

12. Shri Durgeswar Bora.

(5) Village—Rangchali Dalani.

13. Shri Narapati Upadhaya.

14. Shri Dambarudhar Upadhyaya.

(6) Village—Rangchali Kaibarta.

15. Shri Mallinath Sarmah.

16. Shri Hari Prosad Prodhan.

(7) Village—Repalibari.

17. Shri Ram Chandra Sarmah.

(8) Village—Jamuni.

18. Shri Basanta Kumar Baruah.

(9) Village—Bihmari.

19. Shri Lachu Urang.

20. Shri Abhiram Mikir.

21. Shri Kapil Kherowar.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—No.

(h)—No. The Society was actually in existence at that time.

(i)—The Society obtained a loan of Rs. 30,000 from Tezpur Central Bank Ltd., in December, 1957 for seasonal agricultural operation.

(j)—Out of the loan of Rs. 30,000, Rs. 23,500 was utilised in making advances to members (for marketing of crops) and Rs. 6,500 for seasonal agricultural operations.

(k)—Eighty bighas, 5 lessas of land belonging to Shri Anandeswar Barua, Chairman and 115 bighas, 4 kathas, 17 lessas of land belonging to Shri Basanta Kumar Baruah, member, of total estimated value of Rs. 39,000 and the machineries and implements belonging to the society valued at Rs. 24,330.62 N. P. were mortgaged to the Tezpur Central Bank as security against this loan.

(l)—Yes.

(m)—Nine times *viz.*—1st October 1955, 30th October 1955, 6th November 1955, 1st March 1956, 1st May 1956, 15th September 1956, 14th February 1957, 12th March 1957 and 6th May 1957 (1st meeting on 1st October 1955, 2nd meeting on 30th October, 1955, respectively) and so on.

(n)—Yes.

(o)—Yes. The society was inspected by the Departmental Officer (Deputy Co-operative Officer) on 18th April 1957 and instructions given to rectify the defects. Moreover, the defects of the society were pointed out in course of annual audit of the accounts of the society for the year 1955-56, 1956-57, and 1957-58 in audit notes. The audits of the accounts of the society for the years 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58 was conducted on 28th March 1957, 25th September 1957 to 27th September 1957 and 3rd January 1959 to 5th January 1959 respectively.

(p)—Most of the defects pointed out and irregularities defected have been since been rectified and Government Officers are regularly visiting the society giving proper guidance.

Improvement and repair of certain roads by the Gauhati Local Board

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

594. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he will be pleased to ascertain from Gauhati Local Board in any improvement or repair work has been done during the last three years in the following roads under the Board and whether consequently the roads have been rendered unpassable for non-repair of the bridges, bridge approaches and breaches on the roads :—(i) Bexera-Balikuchi, (ii) Rangmahal-Changsari, (iii) Jalimura-Changsari, (iv) Dakhinsingira-Borka, (v) Kendukona-Changsari, (vi) Kathalguri bridge, (vii) the portion not taken by Public Works Department on Borka-Kamalpur Road, (viii) Guiva-Palsara, etc. ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that on the representation of the public and the questioner some amount was sanctioned as earmarked grants by the then L. S.-G. Minister for the necessary improvement of the roads ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that the amount was entrusted to Gauhati Local Board for the execution of the projects ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that no work whatsoever was done by the Board in these projects ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that several representations have been made to the Government for improvement of these roads ?
- (f) Whether in view of the fact that no improvement has been made by the Board in these roads and the roads have thus become unfit for communication and causing great difficulties to the public, Government will be pleased to sanction some amount as earmarked grant for improvement of these projects ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L. S.-G.) replied .

594. (a) The roads under item Nos.(iv), (vi) and (viii) are not Local Board roads and as such no amount was spent by the Gauhati Local Board for maintenance of the said roads. Items Nos.(i), (ii), (iii), (v) and (vii) are being maintained by the Gauhati Local Board who have spent the following amounts during the last three years :—

1955-56				Rs.
1. Mandakata-Bezara-Balikuchi road	...	...	...	200.00
2. Changsari-Kendukona road	...	...	...	200.00
3. Jalimura-Baihata Changsari road	—	...	...	100.00
4. Borka-Baihata road	...	...	...	200.00
1956-57				
1. Rangmahal-Changsari road	...	...	...	400.00
2. Changsari-Kendukona road	...	...	...	600.00
3. Jalimura-Baihata-Changsari road	...	...	...	400.00
4. Borka-Baihata road	...	...	...	500.00
5. Mandakata-Bezara-Balikuchi road	—	...	...	400.00

1957-58

	Rs. N.P.
1. Changsari-Kendukona road	500'00
2. Borka-Baihata road	500'00
3. Rangmahal-Changsari road	650'00
4. Mandakata-Bezara-Balikuchi road	500'00

(b) No grant was earmarked for these roads.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes.

(f) Government have stopped the system of earmarking the grants and certain roads could not be repaired by the Local Board for paucity of fund.

Appointment of the member of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :
595. Will the Minister in-charge of Revenue, be pleased to state—

(a) On what basis the members of the Land Settlement Advisory Committees are appointed ?

(b) Whether some of the M. L. As. are left out of these committees ?

(c) If so, why ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

595. (a)—The leading local persons with an abiding interest in the welfare of the peasants including some of the M. L. As of the Subdivisions are appointed as members of the Local Land Settlement Advisory Committees.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—There is no hard and fast rule that all the M. L. As. of the Subdivisions are to be appointed as member of the Land Settlement Advisory Committees.

Amount allotted for original works and repair of certain roads during the year 1958-59

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

596. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state what amount has been allotted to the following roads respectively for original works and for repairs for the year 1958-59 and to what extent work has been done?

(i) North Gauhati-Mandakata-Doomnichaki Road.

(ii) Kamalpur-Borka Road.

(iii) Kamalpur-Morwa Road.

(iv) Loch-Balikuchi-Jaitiabhangara-Chirakhundi Road.

(v) Dora-Kahara-Bhitarkhola Road.

(vi) Bagals Road.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied :

596. (i)—There are two sections for this work. For the 1st section, the estimated cost is Rs.41,000 against which a sum of Rs.40,497 has been spent upto 31st March, 1958. A sum of Rs. 500 has been allotted during this year.

No amount has been allotted for repairs. For the 2nd section the estimated cost is Rs. 30,000 against which a sum of Rs. 17,516 has been spent upto 31st March, 1958. Amount of Rs. 13,000 has been allotted during this year. The work is expected to be completed during this year.

(ii)—The estimate for the work is Rs.20,000. Rs.10,627 has been spent upto 31st March, 1958 and Rs.9,400 has been allotted for original works during this year (1958-59). The work is expected to be completed this year. No amount is required for repairs this year.

(iii)—There are three estimates for this road:—

(a) Improving K. M. Road (Spill over)-Estimate Rs.1,80,000. Work on this estimate has been completed this year.

(b) Further improvement and gravelling K. M. Road including Boralia Bridge—Estimate Rs.1,20,000. Allotment for original works is Rs.30,000. Site for the bridge has since been selected and work will be taken up next year.

(c) Improvement K. M. Road (remaining portion)—Estimate Rs. 60,000. Allotment for original works is Rs.10,000. Earthwork and culverts have been completed. Remaining works are being carried out.

No repairs grant has been given yet as the original works has not been completed.

(iv)—The estimate is for Rs.1,00,000 and Rs.29,500 has been allotted for original works. Earth has been completed. Bridges and culverts are in progress. No repairs carried out yet as the original works has not been completed.

(v)—Estimate is for Rs.30,000. Fund allotted for original works is Rs.17,000. Earth work has been completed. Bridges and culverts are in progress. No repairs carried out yet as the original works has not been completed.

(vi)—Original work has been completed. Rs.50,000 has been allotted for repairs 80 per cent earthwork and gravel collection has been completed.

Regarding Blacklisting of Bijoy Store of Gauhati by Veterinary Department

Shri DWIJESH CH. DEB SARMAH (Digboi) asked.

597. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary, be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Bijoy Store, a firm of New Market, Gauhati was blacklisted by the Veterinary Department for charging excess money for supplying inferior articles to the Veterinary Department and thus the excess paid were realised by the said Department?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the same firm is now becoming very dear to the Veterinary Department and getting lots of order from the Veterinary Department?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-Charge of Veterinary) replied:

597. (a)—No. The firm was not blacklisted. It charged Rs. 1,915 in excess while it made supply of towels, rubber cloth and saunter's scale to the Department through some misconception. When it was pointed to the firm, it refunded the amount in full.

(b)—Tenders were called for. This firm also submitted tender. Its tender for the supply of certain articles was accepted on competitive basis, along with those of other firms.

Amount of fund allotted to each Local Boards of State during 1958-59

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

598. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) The total amount of fund sanctioned or allotted to each of the Local Boards of Assam during the financial year, 1958-59?

(b) Why comparatively less amount has been allotted to Dibrugarh Local Board in proportion of its population?

599. (a) Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government, be pleased to lay on the table a list showing the number of population under each Local Board of Assam according to 1951 census and total amount of money allotted to each of these Boards each year in the years 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1946 and 1957?

(b) What were the basis of allotment of these funds to these Boards?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government) replied:

598. (a) & (b)—The information is being collected.

599. (a) & (b)—The information is being collected.

Regarding management of Dakhinpat High English School and reports of Inspector

Shri DHIR SINGH DEURI [Laharighat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

600. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Bulletin in the name of Kamaleswar Rajkhowa regarding anomaly of Dakhinpat High English School in Nowgong, was received by Government?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Inspector of Schools, Central Assam Circle, Assam inspected the said School on 1st December 1958 and found some anomalies regarding accounts and management of School affairs?
- (c) Whether any action was taken against those persons responsible for the same?
- (d) How many sittings of the Managing Committee of the said School were held during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58.
- (e) What amount was received from the Government for improvement of School building, during the year 1957-58?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister for Education) replied :

600. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes. The Inspector inspected the school but there is nothing in the inspection note regarding anomalies or mismanagement of the School as has been pointed out by the hon. Member.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—1956-57—6.

1957-58—6.

(e)—Rs. 2,000.

List of the Aided High Schools of the State

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

601. Will the Minister of Education be pleased to lay on the Library table a list of the Aided High Schools of the State with the following informations in a tabular form:—

(i) Name of the School.

(ii) Year of establishment, and

(iii) No. of students on the roll by year from 1948.

(iv) Non-recurring grants sanctioned under different heads year by year from 1948 to 1958 ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied :

601. (i) to (iv)—Informations are being compiled.

Regarding distribution of Non-recurring grant to Aided educational institutions of the State

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI asked :

602. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

(a) What principles has been followed by the Government in the matter of distributing non-recurring grant to aided educational institutions of the State ?

(b) Whether the Minister is aware that there is great deal of dissatisfactions prevailing among the aided institutions for not following any uniform principle in distributing such grants ?

(c) What decision has been arrived at by Government to increase the reserve fund of the institutions by allowing a higher percentage of fee-income to be kept apart in calculating deficient system of grants ?

(d) Whether Government are aware that such a step will create a spirit of self-reliance in the educational institution ?

- (e) Whether Government also propose to keep a sum of some lakhs of rupees to be advanced as loans to needy educational institutions for their expansion to be recovered from their reserve fund by deducting the percentage of fee-income for reserve fund ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

602. (a)—Non-recurring grants are sanctioned on the basis of the requirement of Schools and on the recommendation of Inspector or Deputy Inspector of Schools as the case may be.

(b)—Government are not aware of any specific instances, although it is likely that some will be dissatisfied.

(c)—The matter is still under examination.

(d)—Government is hopeful in this regard.

(e)—Same as No. (c) above.

Amount sanctioned for distribution as non-recurring grants to Aided Schools of the State for 1958-59

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

603. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

(a) What amount has been sanctioned for distribution as non-recurring grants to Aided Schools of the State for the year 1958-59.

(b) What are the Aided Schools to which non-recurring Grants have been granted and what amount has been allotted to each of them ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

603. (a)—Rs.6,25,000.

(b)—Lists are placed on the Library table. (Please see Library Register No. S.123). Some mistakes are still being collected, and it will take a little time yet to get the list corrected fully.

Regarding management of Kamalpur M. V. School

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

604. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to refer to the reply given by him to Unstarred question No.433 asked by the Questioner on 1st April, 1958 and state—

(a) Whether he is aware that no step has yet been taken to partition the halls of newly constructed Kamalpur M. V. which has caused great inconvenience to manage the classes and no arrangement has been made for urinals and latrines ?

(b) Whether Government propose to take steps why the assurances were not implemented so long ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

604. (a) & (b)—Sanction of Rs.1,000 has been given to give partition in the hall and Rs.1,904 for providing urinal and latrine and improving the play-ground.

Regarding M.E. Scholarships of 1957

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI asked:

605. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Scholarships of the Middle English Examination held in November, 1957 have been declared ?

(b) What is the cause for such unduly delay in declaring the scholarships ?

Sri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

605. (a) & (b)—Scholarships of all kind (Middle English and Middle Vernacular) have long been awarded. The delay is due to the facts that a merit list of all grades of Scholarships are to be prepared at the first instance scrutinising the Mark

Registers of 50,000 candidates and the same are to be finalised in consultation with the particulars furnished in the Returns submitted by the Heads of the Institutions concerned. In case of wrong submission of Returns the particulars regarding the candidate or candidates are to be had from the relative institutions and Deputy Commissioner concern.

All these works took considerable time to finalise the merit list and to award the scholarship to the eligible ones.

Regarding Educational flood damaged grants

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

606. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) What amount has been sanctioned as flood damage grants to Educational Institutions of the State ?

(b) Whether the Education Minister will be pleased to place a copy of the list of the school receiving such grants with amount shown against them on the Library table of the Assembly ?

Sri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

606. (a)—No amount has been sanctioned as flood damage grants this year.

(b)—Does not arise.

Construction of Rest House and a Club for Ex-Servicemen at Shillong

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

607. (a) Whether there was a proposal for constructing a rest house and club for Ex-Servicemen coming to Shillong ?

(b) If so, how much amount was proposed to be spent for this purpose ?

(c) Whether any rest house and club has been constructed at Shillong for Ex-Servicemen ?

(d) If not, why ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

607. (a) to (d)—Information has called for.

Regarding recurring grant to B. P. B. Memorial High English School of Sonari, Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

608. Will the Minister-in-charge, Education be pleased to state—

- (a) The amount of monthly recurring grant sanctioned to B. P. Baruah Memorial High School of Sonari, Sibsagar Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that this financial help is not adequate ?
- (c) If so, whether Government propose to raise the grant ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that this institution lately requested the Government for a hostel grant ?
- (e) If so, whether Government propose to consider this at an early date ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied :

608. (a)—Rs.150.

(b)—No. because no application for increase of the recurring grant has been received, nor has any such proposal been received from the Inspector of Schools.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes, when fund will be provided in the Budget this will be considered along with other cases.

Regarding Detection of Opium Cases since Prohibition, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

609. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of opium smuggling cases detected by the Excise officials and formal cases instituted in the court of Law, year by year, in Dibrugarh Subdivision since the enforcement of opium prohibition ?

(b) What is the total amount of opium seized by the Excise officials from smugglers, year by year since enforcement of opium prohibition in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

609. (a) & (b)—The information is being collected.

Regarding the Number of Detection since Prohibition Subdivision-wise

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

610. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of opium smuggling cases detected in the State Subdivision-wise since the enforcement of opium prohibition year by year?

(b) Whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table a list showing the opium seized in different Subdivisions of the State, year by year, since the enforcement of opium prohibition ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

610. (a) & (b)—The information is being collected.

Regarding the period of Smuggling Cases pending and the Pleaders concerned

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

611. (a) Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to lay on the table a list showing the opium smuggling cases instituted at Dibrugarh Court since 1953, stating the names of Pleaders or advocates who defended the accused persons and the amount of opium seizures in each case ?

(b) The period that took in disposing of each of these cases since the date of prosecution of the accused persons ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

611. (a) & (b)—The information is being collected.

Regarding the Pending Cases of Opium and the Pleaders concerned in Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked :

612. (a) Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to lay on the table a list showing opium smuggling cases pending at Dibrugarh Court on the 1st March, 1959 ?

(b) What are the names of Pleaders or Advocates who are defending these cases at Dibrugarh ?

(c) Whether Government propose to instruct the trying courts to dispose of the opium cases as quickly as possible ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

612. (a) to (c)—The information is being collected.

Regarding Constitution of Opium Prohibition Committee

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked :

613. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of sittings of the Subdivisional Opium Prohibition Committee at Dibrugarh since its constitution ?
- (b) When the present Dibrugarh Opium Prohibition Committee was constituted ?
- (c) What were the subject-matters of discussion or agenda for the sittings of the said Prohibition Committee ?
- (d) Who are the President and Secretary of this Committee ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise)
replied :

613. (a) to (d)—The information is being collected.

Regarding Chabua Opium Addicts Treatment Centre

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked :

614. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Chabua opium addicts treatment centre is not functioning now?
- (b) If so, since when the functioning of this treatment centre was stopped ?
- (c) Whether closure of the treatment centre indicates the non-existence of opium addicts in that area ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise)
replied :

614. (a) to (c)—The information is being collected.

Regarding Parva-Kanchanpur U.E. Madrasah, Barpeta Subdivision

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

615. Will the Minister, Education, be pleased to state—

- (a) Since when the Parva-Kanchanpur U.E. Madrasah within Barpeta Subdivision was started ?
- (b) When this Madrasah got the affiliation ?
- (c) How many students are then in this Madrasah during the last 3 years ?
- (d) What is the monthly expenditure of this Madrasah and what is the amount of monetary help given to this Madrasah as recurring and non-recurring grant up till now ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied :

615.—(a) to (d)—Informations are being collected.

Regarding an old scheme senior (I. A.) Madrasa, at Gunafulbari Barpeta Subdivision

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED asked:

616. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is an old scheme senior (I. A.) Madrasah at Gunafulbari within Barpeta Subdivision and the same is the Government Aided Madrasah ?
- (b) If so, what is the monthly expenditure of this Madrasah and what is the amount of Aid given by the Government as recurring grant her month ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:—

616. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Government have no information about the monthly expenditure of the Madrasah but it is getting a recurring grant of Rs.67 per month.

Praying for the Khas land for rehabilitation for erosion affected people of the south bank of the Brahmaputra

Shri TAMIZUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri) asked:

617. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue Department be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government received several representations from erosion affected people of the south of the Brahmaputra praying for the khas land for rehabilitations ?

(b) How many families have been rendered homeless and landless by the erosion of the Brahmaputra in the South Bank specially in the Borkakali area ?

(c) What arrangements have been made for their relief and rehabilitations ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

617. (a) to (c)—The information are being collected from the Local Officers.

Regarding erosion of River Aie during two years

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDER (Sorbhog) asked:

618 Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) How many people have been eroded by the River Aie during the last two years ?

(b) How many areas of lands have been eroded ?

(c) Whether these affected people have been provided with lands ?

(d) If so, where ?

(e) Whether there were representations from those people about lands ?

(f) If so, why Government has not taken any step to rehabilitate them ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

618. (a) to (f)—The information are being collected from Local Officers.

Regarding the removal of the liquor shop in Holongapur which have caused robbery, etc.

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

619. Will the Minister-in-charge of Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the people of Holongapur Mouza including labours requested Government for several time to remove the present liquor shop situated just by the side of the Meleng Hat of Meleng Tea Estate ?
- (b) If so, what action has been taken in the matter so far ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that several cases of robbery and dacoity have lately taken place in this locality and that the feeling of the public is that this is due to the location of the liquor shop there ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Excise) replied :

619. (a) to (c)—The information is being collected.

Request of public to open a Fishery at Dhola River, Dibrugarh.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

620. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the local public has been opposing the settlement of Dhola river in Saikhawa area (Dibrugarh) as Fishery with any Mahalder and has been requesting the Government to open this Fishery for public fishing as before ?
- (b) What Government propose to do on these representations ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

620. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Fishery was already settled for 3 years from 1st April 1957 to 31st March 1960 at an annual revenue of Rs.5,000. The question of opening the fishery for free fishing by the public cannot be considered now.

Regarding demarcation line of the Sorbhog Beel

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

621. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Why no demarcation line of the Sorbhog Beel has yet been given ?

(b) When the work of demarcating of the line with pillars will commence ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that there have been encroachments within the Sorbhog Beel area ?

(d) What is the total area of the Sorbhog Beel ?

(e) Whether the Sorbhog Beel will be reclaimed ?

(f) If so, when ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Revenue) replied:

621. (a)—This will be done in the course of the present general resettlement operation of the Subdivision.

(b)—There is no proposal to put pillars for the present.

(c)—Some complaints were received to this effect.

(d)—348 bighas, 4 kathas, 6 lessas.

(e) & (f)—Yes, after expiry of the current lease on 31st March 1960, the Beel will be handed over to the Fishery Department for improvement.

**Regarding the condition of wells in Rongechungi
within Panitola N. E. S. Block or C.D. Block
Dibrugarh.**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked:

622. Will the Minister-in-charge of L. S.-G. be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there are pucca wells at Rongechungi village near the Church and at Habi Chorai Chungi Gaon in Gharbandi Mauza belonging to Dibrugarh Local Board?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that none of the agencies of Government repaired or cleansed the well for the last 22 years?
- (c) Why the Local Board did neither maintain nor hand over these wells to local Rural Panchayat?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the condition of these wells could not come to the notice of the Panitola. N. E. S. or C. D. Block although operating there for the last 2 years.?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L. S.-G.) replied:

622. (a), (b), (c), and (d)—The information has been called for.

**Amount of money un-realised by fishery Mahal in
Barpeta Subdivision.**

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

623. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the amount of the fishery Mahal bid money left unrealised within Barpeta Subdivision upto date and who are the lessees not paying these money (Answers) should be given year by year)?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that proper steps have not been taken to realise these huge amount of Government money?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

623. (a) and (b)—Information is being collected.

Regarding the transposition of Miri Jakaichuk into a Bil Fishery in Sibsagar

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked:

624. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there were much inconvenience and public representation for making the "Miri-Dikhow Bil" of Jakaichuk Mauza under Sibsagar Subdivision last year into a Government fishery against the will of the people of that locality?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that on the banks of this "Bil" there are about 6 bighas small villages with population of about 5,000?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that this "Bil" is the only place of those people for drinking water, bathing, washing and fishing, etc.?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that those people are to cross over this Bil always in the rainy and dry season for grazing and to the paddy fields?
- (e) Whether Government is aware that those who made this "Bil" with their own physical labour by diverting the Dikhow river?
- (f) Whether Government will be pleased to comply with the request of the public by converting the fishery into a "Bil"?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Revenue)
replied :

624 (a)—No.

(b)—May be so. The question is not clear.

(c)—No. Local Board has already provided the villages with Tanks in the neighbourhood of Mori Dikhow. As regards fishing, people can fish there on payment of annas-4-0 to the lessee per annum.

(d)—May be so.

(e)—No. This appears to be an abandoned course of the Dikhow river.

(f)—There is no question of making it 'Khas' at present.

Rates of Fishery Mahals of Mangaldai Subdivision

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

625. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware that the Fishery Mahals of the Mangaldai Subdivision were sold in auction in 1958 at a considerably lower rate than that of the previous years and if so, why?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

625.—Government have no information. Information is being collected.

Regarding Relief and Rehabilitation of the Flood affected families of Fakirgonje Embankment, Goalpara in June 1958.

Maulavi SAHADAT ALI (South Salmara) asked :

626. Will the Minister-in-charge of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware that a large number of families were affected and some home stead were washed away due to breach of the Kharmuza Fakirgonje Embankment at Borkakhali within Goalpara District in the month of June 1958 ?

(b) What is the number of people and area affected and what amount of money was sanctioned by the Government for the affected victims as relief and rehabilitation ?

(c) Whether any step has been taken and plan made to rehabilitate these affected people ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that these affected people are harassed by the Rent Collector Staff for realising their rent ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

626.(a) to (d)—The information are being collected from Local Officers.

Regarding flood and erosion affected cultivators, Mangaldai Subdivision

Maulavi MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

627. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that there is a great number of flood and erosion affected cultivators in the Mangaldai Subdivision ?
- (b) If so, how long they are in such condition ?
- (c) What is the number of flood and erosion affected families in the Subdivision ?
- (d) What steps have so far been taken by the Government to settle these affected families elsewhere ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

627. (a) to (d)—The informations are being collected from the Subdivisional Officer, Mangaldai.

People affected by the Embankment of Pahumara River

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

628. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether compensation will be given to those people who are badly affected by the Embankment of Pahumara River under the Bajali Circle ?
- (b) If not, why not ?
- (c) How many families are affected by the embankment of Pahumara River ?
- ((d) Whether it is a fact that most of the affected people of the said embankment are poor and landless ?

(d) If so, whether land or some sorts of compensation will be provided to them ?

(f) If not, why not ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

628. (a) to (f)—The informations are being collected.

Regarding the Settlement of erosion affected people of river Janji in Mirigaon, Sibsagar

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

629. Will the Minister in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a few families of village “Mirigaon” of Gadhulibazar Mauza, under Sibsagar Subdivision have been affected by the erosion of river Janji ?

(b) Whether Government will be pleased either to give land to those people somewhere else or take action to stop the erosion of the river.

(c) Whether Government will be pleased to take necessary action immediately ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

629. (a)—The informations are being collected from the local officers.

(b) & (c)—Government will certainly consider the matter immediately if the families are found deserving.

Regarding Bhakatpara L. P. School, Barpeta

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

630. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Who is the Secretary of the Barpeta Bhakatpara Lower Primary School ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs. 200 from School Board Fund and an amount of Rs. 500 from Development officer, Barpeta were taken by the Secretary for Development works of the said Lower Primary School?

(c) If so, how the amount were spent (Answers are to be given item by item and the amount spent against each item)?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

630. (a), (b) & (c)—Information are being collected.

Regarding tour of Veterinary Director—January and February in 1959

Shri DWIJESH CH. DEB SARMAH (Digboi) asked:

631. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the present Director, Veterinary visited Delhi, Patna, etc., for about a period of a month in the month of January, and February 1959.

(b) If so, what was the purpose of those tours?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Veterinary) replied:

631. (a)—The Director of Veterinary Department visited
(i) Delhi from 25th January 1959 to 31st January 1959.
(ii) Izatnagar from 1st February 1959 to 9th February 1959 and
(iii) Lucknow from 5th February 1959 to 7th February 1959 availed of casual leave at Patna from 8th February 1959 to 15th February 1959.

(b)—Purpose (i) Delhi to attend meeting on Livestock Development, held by the Government of India in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, (ii) Izatnagar and (iii) Lucknow to study the establishment of Biological Products Laboratory in order to set up an upto-date Biological Product Laboratory in Assam.

Regarding Rehabilitation of Brahmaputra erosion affected people, Golaghat

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked:

632. Will the Minister in-charge of Revenue (Land) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that about 48 families of Ahatguri Mauza (Golaghat Sub-division) were uprooted by Brahmaputra erosion in 1955 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that being helpless they took shelter in Gohpur forest ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that they were evicted from Gohpur forest and their Ahu paddy damaged and they have not been rehabilitated up till now ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that they are facing starvation and their conditions are miserable for want of rehabilitation ?
- (e) How long Government would take for their rehabilitation ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

632. (a)—Yes, about 148 families were affected.

(b)—Some erosion affected people from Ahatguri Mauza encroached land in Gohpur Forest Reserve.

(c)—Yes, the encroachers were evicted. But no damage was caused to Ahu crop. They were allowed to harvest their standing crops. They were offered settlement of land within the reclaimed area of Rownamukh village, but they refused to go there. The Deputy Commissioner has now been directed to ask these evictees to point out land where they want to go. If they can point out Government land other than forest and Grazing Reserves they will be allowed settlement of it.

(d)—There is no such report.

(e)—If the evictees go to the alternative area offered to them they can be rehabilitated forthwith.

**Regarding mis-use of money of Jorhat C. D. Block by
Shri Rajani Borah**

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

633. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that an amount of Rs.3,000 was alleged to have been misappropriated by Shri Rajani Borah, the *ex-President* of Khangia Rural Panchayat?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that the money was handed over to the Panchayat President by the Project Officer, Jorhat C. D. Block in the month of December 1957?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that this sum of Rs.3,000 was sanctioned by the C. D. Block, Jorhat to the Dohotia Government Aided High English School but was not handed over to the School authority by the Panchayat President?
- (d) If so, why no action is being taken against the alleged offender during the last 14 months?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that a warrant of arrest was issued to Shri Rajani Borah?
- (f) If so, when this was issued?
- (g) Why he was not arrested during such a long period?
- (h) Whether Government are aware that Shri Rajani Borah is in his village and is generally found at home by the villagers when he is wanted?
- (i) If so, why the Police could not arrest him?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

633. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—It is not a fact that no action was taken. The Project Executive Officer lodged a formal complaint to Police, and Police registered a case under Jorhat Police Station case No. 60 of 28th June 1958 under Section 406, Indian Penal Code before lodging the complaint the Project Executive Officer made attempts by personal intervention to get the money paid.

(e)—No. No warrant was required to be issued as the case is cognisable and Police may arrest without warrant.

(f)—Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g)—Police made many attempts to arrest him but he is absconding so charge sheet has been submitted showing him as an absconder and praying to the Magistrate to issue proclamation and attachment against the accused.

(h)—No.

(i) Does not arise in view of (h) above.

Representation for sanctioning a non-recurring grant for Majarjop Middle English School, Kamrup

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked:

634. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he has lately received representation for sanctioning a non-recurring grant for the Majarjop Middle English Madrassa in Pub-Samaria, in South Kamrup?

(b) Whether it is a fact that this School has been in existence for more than five years and the results justify the sanction of such a grant?

(c) Whether Government propose to consider the case of the School and sanction a grant this year?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

634. (a)—No representation has been received this year.

(b)—The School was established in 1953. As the School has not sent up students as regular candidates to the Middle English Examination for want of recognition, the students might have appeared as private candidates and as such Government have no information about its results.

(c)—An amount of Rs.500 has been sanctioned last year as non-recurring grant for building.

Help for organisation for development of Cottage Industries in Murkongsellek Transferred Area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikowa) asked:

635. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any help is granted to any organisation for development of Cottage Industries in Murkongsellek Transferred Area ?

(b) If so, what are those ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that a women organisation had been formed at Bijoypure village in Murkongsellek Transferred Area known as Bijoypure Mahila Samity and applied for Government help for weaving ?

(d) Whether this organisation of Tribal Women got any Government help ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister-in-charge of Industries) replied:

635. (a)—*Cottage Industries Department*: No application for help was received by Government.

(a)—*Sericulture and Weaving Department*: Reply as at (a) above.

(b)—*Cottage Industries Department*: Does not arise in view of reply (a) above.

(b)—*Sericulture and Weaving Department*: As at (b) above.

(c)—*Cottage Industries Department*: No such application was received by Government.

(c)—*Sericulture and Weaving Department*: As at (c) above.

(d)—*Cottage Industries Department*: As at (a)-(b) & (c) above.

(d)—*Sericulture and Weaving Department*: As at (a), (b) & (c) above.

Regarding Price of fish and amount of fish (Dried and Fresh) exported annually from Barpeta

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

636. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that price of fish is very high at Barpeta town due to absence of weighing system ?

(b) Whether weighing system will be introduced there ?

(c) How many maunds of fish (dried and fresh) are exported annually from Barpeta ?

(d) Whether Government propose to instruct the local authority to introduce weighing system of fish in Barpeta town ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

636. (a) to (d)—Informations are being collected.

Regarding Police verification, etc., of one Sub-Inspector at Nalbari

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked:

637. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether one Shri Chittaranjan Patowari of village Saudheli, Thana Nalbari served as Sub-Inspector of Police under the Government ?

(b) Whether Police verification of his antecedents and character was done, as usual, prior to his appointment ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that he has been removed from service ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that he was removed from service in ground that he was connected with a particular political party before his appointment?

(e) Whether Government have got any proof with them that he had any connection with any political party after his appointment in Government Service?

(f) When he was appointed to Government service and when he was removed therefrom?

(g) Whether Government propose to investigate into the matter and do justice to the person concerned?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied:

637. (a) — Yes.

(b)—Yes, but subsequently it was found to be defective.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Yes. He was compulsorily retired from service as his continuance was considered prejudicial to public interest.

(e)—Government had sufficient reason to believe that his retention in police service would be against public interest.

(f)—He was appointed as Sub-Inspector of Police on 1st April 1950 and compulsorily retired on 23rd January 1953.

(g)—As the Government had the matter fully investigated they do not propose to make any further investigation.

Regarding information of Relief Fund for Ex-servicemen

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

638. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is an Assam Service Relief Fund for the Ex-servicemen?

- (b) If so, where from this fund was received ?
- (c) What is the amount received since 1947 ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Rs.55,000 shown as loss in a bank failure ?
- (e) Whether the amount was actually deposited in the bank ?
- (f) If so, what is the name of the bank ?
- (g) Whether any investigation has been made ?
- (h) If not, when the investigation will be made ?
- (i) Whether the fund has been administered by the State Board in accordance with rules ?
- (j) Whether the State Board or the District Boards are to distribute those money ?
- (k) Who are the persons to whom relief has been given since 1947 and what is the amount of relief given to each ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

638. (a) to (k)—Information has been called for.

Regarding communication between Nalbari Police Station and Paschim Borkhetri Mauza.

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

639. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Since when Paschim Barkhetri Mauza has been tagged under Nalbari Police Station ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that by tagging Paschim Barkhetri Mauza with Nalbari Police Station, this Mauza has become a tail of Nalbari Police Station ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that there is no communication from Nalbari Police Station to Barkhetri Mauza ?

(d) Whether considering the compactness of the area, affinity of the people, better communication and for better administration Government propose to retag this Paschim Barkhetri Mauza with Hajo Police Station ?

(e) If not, why ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

639. (a)—Since 1st October, 1954.

(b)—No. It has formed a part of Nalbari Police Station lying to its south adjoining Uttar Barkhetri Mauza.

(c)—During the winter season, there is no difficulty about communication between Nalbari Police Station and Paschim Barkhetri Mauza, but during the rainy season, the communication is, of course, not good. However, after the establishment of an Investigating Centre at Doulasal, difficulties in the matter of investigation of crime or maintenance of Law and Order have been removed.

(d)—No.

(e)—If this Mauza is retagged with Hajo Police Station, the Hajo Police Station would become an unwieldy Police Station and the supervision by the Circle Inspector of Police whose Headquarters is at Gauhati, would also be difficult.

Regarding Dearness Allowance of Teachers of Tols, Madrassas, etc.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

640. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) The prevailing rates of Dearness Allowances of the Madrassa teachers, Sanskrit Tol Pandits and menials working in Tols and Madrassas ?
- (b) What were the Dearness allowances of these categories of workers formerly ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Madrassa teachers got increment of their dearness allowances from Rs.3-0-0 to Rs.15-0-0, the Sanskrit Tols Pandits from Rs.3-0-0 to Rs.8-0-0 and the School menials from Rs.2-0-0 to Rs.8-0-0 ?
- (d) If so, what is the reason for such discrimination ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to enhance to dearness allowance of the Sanskrit Tol Pandits ?
- (f) If so, whether Government propose to issue instruction to this effect immediately ?
- (g) If not, why not ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

640. (a)—(i) Middle English and High English Madrassas—

Rs.15-0-0 per teacher and Clerk.

Rs.9-0-0 per menial.

(ii) Senior and Title Madrassas—

Rs.10-0-0 per teacher and Clerk.

Rs.4-0-0 per menial.

Regarding construction of Jiyakur Kandalpara Road

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [(Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

642. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Jiyakur-Kandalpara Road under the Subdivisional Officer, Boko Public Works Department has been constructed without issuing a tender notice ?
- (b) If so, why ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the road does not serve the public at all ?
- (d) Whether Government aware that the house of Shri Haricharan Nath has been damaged due to the construction of the road ?
- (e) Whether any compensation has been given to him due to the damage of his house ?
- (f) Whether the road has been completed ?
- (g) Who was the contractor ?
- (h) Whether payment has been made to him ?
- (i) The total amount of earthwork in terms of cft. by the said contractor on the road ?
- (j) What was the amount given to the contractor for the earthwork ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department, (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied:

642. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—The road is under construction as recommended by the Assam Road Communication Board.

(d)—It is not a fact. Just after the construction of the road was taken up, Shri Haricharan Nath started construction of his house. As a result the construction of the road has to be stopped.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—No, the road is still under construction.

(g)—There are seven contractors, viz., Shri Dinesh Ch. Kalita, Shri Pratap Ch. Das, Shri Keshab Ch. Das, Shri Hayram Das, Shri Anandaram Bharali, Shri Batiram Deka, Shri Hirendra Kumar Bora.

(h)—Payment to contractor Shri Pratap Ch. Das has been made and bills of others are under preparation.

(i)—The total quantity of earthworks done by Shri Pratap Ch. Das is 74,616 cft.

(j)—The amount given to Shri Pratap Ch. Das is Rs.1,492.

Regarding information of land (dag No.397) at Udalguri

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

643. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that land covered by dag No.397 in Udalguri village in Bogdung Mauza under occupation of a cultivator belonging to Ex-tea garden labour community was cancelled and settled with a Tea Planter?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the occupant of this land protested against such action of the Sub-Deputy Collector but his protest was rejected?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge, Revenue) replied:

643. (a)—There is no such dag No. in village Udalguri in Bogdung Mauza.

(b)—Does not arise.

Regarding aid, etc., for High School at Moderkhat**Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)** asked:

644. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there is a High School at Moderkhat in Dibrugarh Subdivision had an enrolment of students both in Middle English and High English Sections in 1957—220, in 1958—294 and this year, *i.e.*, in 1959—322 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Moderkhat Mauza is inhabited by backward people and there is no other High School within a radius of 10 miles ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the School authority has been applying for Government aid and university applications ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the School is recognised formally up to class VIII ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the School was last inspected by the Inspector of Schools or Assistant Inspector of Schools, on 5th December, 1958 ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that on the day of inspection 3 graduates were found in the School including one Science graduate and after inspection one more graduate had been appointed in the School ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that Government aid is granted to High Schools in backward areas with an enrolment of 150 and elsewhere with an enrolment of 300 ?
- (h) Whether this School was recommended by the Director of Public Instruction to the University for recognition ?
- (i) If not, why not ?
- (j) What is the difficulty of the Government in sanctioning recurring aid to this High School ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that over 90 per cent of the student belong to different backward classes ?

(l) Whether Government are aware that education was not encouraged there when under the British Government ?

(m) When a recurring aid for this School may be expected ?

645. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) The total number of students in Rohmari High School in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that there is no other High School within a radius of 7 miles ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that this is the only High School in Rohmaria Mauza and the area is inhabited by backward people ?

(d) Whether Government propose to sanction recurring aid to this school this year ?

646. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Banmukh Middle English School is situated in a locality inhabited by people of backward communities of Konwarpore Mauza in Sibsagar Subdivision ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that 43 students came out successful in Middle English Examination held in December, 1957 ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that this school had an enrolment of 236 students from classes IV to VI (six) only in the year 1958 ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that application for opening of class (VII) was made to the Inspector of schools, Upper Assam Circle, Jorhat through the Deputy Inspector of schools, Sibsagar on 9th February, 1958 and the application was duly forwarded with his recommendations ?

- (e) Whether it is a fact that a deputation was waited upon the Inspector of schools, Jorhat on 23rd March 1958, requesting him to grant permission to open class VII and the then Inspector, Shri G. C. Sarma Barua, gave a patient hearing and promised to visit the school to grant formal permission to open class VII ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the School Committee opened class VII in 1958 with 40 students including 18 girls ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the Inspector of schools neither visited the School nor granted formal permission to open class VII that year ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that the school Committee applied again on 30th December, 1958 to the Inspector of schools, Jorhat requesting to grant permission to open class VII and VIII in that school ?
- (i) Whether Government are aware that a number of girl students who passed Middle English Examination from there could not get admission in Girls' High School at Sibsagar for want of seat ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that those students who could get admission in the nearest High Schools were to walk a distance of 10 to 14 miles daily to attend High School ?
- (k) What were the difficulties of the Inspector in granting permission to open classes VII and VIII in Bānmukh High School ?
- (l) Whether it is a fact that this School was an enrolment of over 300 students including over 100 girls from classes IV or VIII ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied :

644. (a) to (m)—The informations are being collected.

645. (a) to (d)—The information are being collected.

646. (a) to (l)—The information are being collected.

regarding expenditure, etc. of Honsora to Doom Dooma
new Road

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikho v a)
asked:

647. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. and B.)
please to state—

- (a) The amount of money spent so far for the new road from Hansora to Doom Dooma since this project was taken up after the great earthquake 1950 ?
- (b) What is the amount of bills paid year by year since the project was taken up stating the nature of work executed ?
- (c) Who were the contractors and whether all these contracts were settled after calling for due tenders ?
- (d) What is the length, breadth and height of this road at present ?
- (e) What was the length, breadth and height of this road according to the specifications ?
- (f) Whether any engineer higher than the Executive Engineer inspected this project ?
- (g) Whether Government is aware that a section of the public suspects misuse of money here ?
- (h) Whether the Minister-in-charge or the Deputy Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) propose to visit this project personally in his next visit to Doom Dooma ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister,
P.W.D. (R. and B.)] replied:

647. (a)—There is no road as Hansora to Doom Dooma.
is presumed that the hon. Member means the road

connecting Tingrai to Doom Dooma *via* Hansora which is known as Makum Ali. The total amount spent in improving this road Rs.92,161.

(b)—The nature of works and amount of bills paid year by year are as follows:—

	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Earthwork	26,128	8,527	Nil
2. Collection of gravels	10,026	34,866	Nil
3. Roads gangs and work establishment and other Miscellaneous work.	2,320	10,285	9

(c)—The following contractors were selected after calling for tenders.

1. Shri Sulaiman Khan.
2. Shri Hardish Khan.
3. Shri Lalit Chandra Bora.
4. Shri Dhruba Chandra Neog.
5. Shri Santiram Hazarika.
6. Shri D. P. Garodia.
7. Shri J. N. Baruah.
8. Shri Hiralal Chandra.
9. Shri Dandi Phukan.

(d) & (e)—The length, breadth and height of this road as per specifications in the estimate are:—

1. Length	8.5 miles.
2. Average breadth	16' (crest width).
3. Average height	4' feet.

(f)—Yes, the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Assam Circle, inspected on the 7th May 1958, 13th July 1958, 2nd March 1959.

(g)—Government have no information.

(h)—Yes, this will be taken into consideration when they project any tour to that area.

Regarding permits of Transport Buses

Maulavi NURUL ISLAM (Dhing) asked:

648. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) How many permits for Transport buses were issued to the applicants in the year 1958-59 in the district of Nowgong?

(b) How many persons applied for such permits?

(c) What are the routes selected for the buses to run?

(d) Whether it is a fact that selection for permits are made by the Advisory Committee on communal basis without regard to competency and the purchasing capacity of a person to buy a vehicle?

(e) Whether Government received various representation from the public of Nowgong objecting to such selection which was alleged to have been based on personal interests?

(f) Whether Government is aware that in former occasions for allotment of such vehicles to individuals permits were issued to persons who not being able to purchase vehicles sold the permits to big Mahajans on hire purchase system?

(g) Whether Government would allow and encourage such system of hire purchase?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Transport Minister) replied:

648. (a)—Sixty four.

(b)—1,422 persons excluding 19 persons for public carriers.

(c)—The routes excluding Bazar Buses and public carriers are:—

- (1) Nowgong-Lowkhowa-Ambagan-Silghat Route.
- (2) Nowgong-Dhing-Buragaon Route.
- (3) Nowgong City Bus Route.
- (4) Nowgong-Sonai-Juria-Saidaria extended upto Samaguri.
- (5) Nowgong-Chaparmukh-Murigaon-Jajari extended from Dandua to Telehim-Origaon to Bhurbandha.
- (6) Nowgong-Babejia-Dakhinpat-Bhalukmari-Barapujia-Kapahara extended upto Dhing-Bhurbandha.
- (7) Nowgong-Hojai-Lonka-Murazarh Route.
- (8) Nowgong-Kampur-Murazarh Route.

(d)—No. All classes of people were given opportunities and their cases disposed of on merit. In pursuance to the Government policy, however, some preferential consideration was given to applicants belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes.

(e)—Government did not receive any complaint but certain representations were received by the Nowgong Regional Transport Authority. Selection was made on merit.

(f)—Government have no information.

(g)—Hire purchase is permissible under the law. It is for the Regional Transport Authority, a quasi-judicial body, to dispose of such cases on merit.

Regarding informations of settlement of Contracts with Backward Classes, etc.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked:

649. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there is an executive instruction given to the executive officers, namely Executive Engineer, Superintending Engineer and Chief Engineer to give preference to contractors belonging to Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in matter of settlement of contract?

(b) Whether Government are aware that the instruction has been misinterpreted by many of these officers and anybody giving tender whether he is genuine contractor or not belonging to Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes are being given preference in settlement of contract to suitable contractors belonging to categories?

(c) How far the interpretation now made by the officers in the above line are in accord with the instruction issued?

(d) Whether Government propose to issue clear and correct interpretation of their instructions?

(e) If not, why?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing)] replied:

649. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—Contracts are not settled as a matter of course with persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes even if their tenders come within $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent above the lowest tender. The above concession is allowed and contract settled with them considering their capability to perform the task satisfactorily. Government have not received any allegations so far, regarding misinterpretation of the above orders.

(d) & (e)—Do not arise.

Regarding informations of Saikhowa-Dirakmukh Fair Weather Road

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked:

650. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Minister received a telegram on 20th October 1958 and its post copy, dated 23rd October 1958 drawing his attention to the fact that the expenditure incurred on Saikhowa-Dirakmukh Fair Weather Road was a recurring wastage?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that this Fair Weather Road could not render service more than a month in a year although large amount had been spent by the Public Works Department?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the proposed, Lafangkola Road would be a better Fair Weather Road to link up the communication?
- (d) What were the difficulties in diverting this expenditure to give better service on the same communication?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister,
Public Works Department (R. and B.)] replied:

650. (a)—Yes, a telegram was received.

(b)—It is not so. This Fair Weather Road serves for vehicular traffic generally from the month of December to March with short interruptions during rainy days.

(c)—The proposed diversion road for 1st to 3rd mile through Lafangkola is expected to be better road as this alignment falls inside Embankment and Drainage bund whereas the existing alignment runs outside the Embankment and Drainage bund, i.e., on the river side of the bund.

(d)—Roads are maintained out of repair grants which cannot be diverted for original work.

Regarding instructions, if issued to D. C's, etc., to celebrate Children's Day

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

651. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the State Government issued instructions to all Deputy Commissioners, and Subdivisional Officers, to celebrate the birth day of Pandit Nehru, Prime Minister of India on 14th November last so as to synchronise it with the World's Children Day?

(b) If so, under whose advice?

(c) Whether it is a fact that in consequence of such instructions heads of educational institutions in different towns of Assam, ordered students to join procession arranged for the purpose and made them to shout slogans praising Pandit Nehru?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied:

651. (a)—Instructions were issued by the State Government to all Deputy Commissioners, and Subdivisional Officers to celebrate the Children's Day on 14th November, 1958.

(b)—Under the advice of the Government of India.

(c)—Instructions were issued to the Local Officers for organising processions of School Children with songs and slogans befitting the occasion but in none of these, there were instructions to shout slogans in praise of Pandit Nehru.

Regarding appointment of 1st Grade Secretary (D. S. S. & A. Board)

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhag) asked:

652. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Sri Rajoni Kanta Datta was appointed 1st Grade Secretary, District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Shillong in 1951?

- (b) Whether his appointment was suspended or formed down by the A. P. S. C. ?
- (c) Whether his pay was stopped since 1st April, 1954 ?
- (d) If so, why ?
- (e) Whether he was degraded ?
- (f) If so, why ?
- (g) Why his dues have not been paid ?
- (h) How much money has to be paid to him by the Board ?
- (i) Whether he was appointed A. S. C. (S. T.) on 7th January, 1952 ?
- (j) If so, why his previous pay was not counted in filling his pay while appointed as Secretary of the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board ?
- (k) Why his previous pay was attached ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

652. (a) to (k)—Information has been called for.

Re: Reconsideration of a resolution to requisition a portion of F. S. grant No.109 at Hilikaguri (Tingrai Mauza) by Dibrugarh Land Settlement Advisory Board

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

653. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that 11 (eleven) families of Moran Tribe and 2 families of Ex-Tea Garden Labour Communities entered an agreement with the Management of the Hakanguri Tea Estate of Assam Frontier Tea Coy., Ltd. and has been occupying land in F. S. grant No. 109 of Hakanguri Tea Estate at the rate of 8 (eight) bighas of land along with 37 other families who had also been occupying land there at the rate of 8 (eight) bighas each with due agreement with the owner ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the local Land Advisory Board passed a resolution to requisition a portion of the F. S. grant No. 109 at Hilikaguri (Tingrai Mouza) in 1954 or so which was under the occupation of 13 families mentioned in (a) above ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that the 13 families mentioned in (a) produced their pattas granted by the management in 1949 to the then Deputy Commissioner, Shri L. Sarma and to the Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia last year in presence of three members of this House Shri Indreswar Khaund, Shri Radha Kisen Khemka and the Questioner ?
- (d) Whether these people applied to the Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh on 6th July, 1955, 20th July, 1956, 25th July, 1957 and 8th October, 1958 and to the Revenue Minister, on 30th, July, 1956 pointing out their occupation of the Tea garden land and their agreement with the Tea garden manager in 1949 whereas a decision without proper enquiry was taken by L. S. A. Board, Dibrugarh on 1954 ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that 4 members of the present Land Settlement Advisory Board requested verbally the S. D. C., Tinsukia to forward the matter to the Board for reconsideration of the previous decision ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that this matter was not brought for discussion in the Land Settlement Advisory Committee during the last 2 years ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to direct the Deputy Commissioner to bring this subject for reconsideration of the Board ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

653. (a) to (g)—Information have been called for.

Regarding Mycological section in Agriculture Department

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked:

654. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the function of the Mycological section of the Agriculture Department ?
- (b) How long the section is functioning in the State ?
- (c) Who is the Officer-in-charge of the section and what are his designation and qualification ?
- (d) How the people in general are benefited by that section of the Department ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that people in general have absolutely no knowledge of the existence of such a section ?
- (f) How the Mycological section is proposed to be brought to the benefit of the people ?

655. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the function of the Entomological section of the Agriculture Department ?
- (b) Who is the Officer-in-charge of the section of the Department and what are his qualification and designation ?
- (c) How the people are benefited by this section ?
- (d) Since when the Entomological section is functioning in the State ?
- (e) Whether Government are aware that the peasants are quite in the dark about the activities and existence of this section ?
- (f) How Entomological section is proposed to be brought to the benefit of the people ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied:

654. (a)—Research, experiments on plant diseases. Organisation of control measures in the field and during storage. This section also carries out research and experiments on the problems on crop diseases received from the districts and offers solutions for their control. It also organises the training of district staff in Plant Protection Methods.

(b)—Since 1948 as an independent section.

(c)—Shri Sudhir Chandra Choudhury, Mycologist, Assam. Qualification: B.Sc. (Agri.), Assoc., I. A. R. I.

(d)—The District Agricultural Staff carry out control operation in case of disease infestation in cultivators' fields under the advice and guidance of the Mycologist. In cases of epidemics, special trained staff are deputed from this section.

(e)—No.

(f)—As indicated under (a) & (d). With the strengthening of the research and field programme, it will be possible to render greater service.

655. (a)—Research and Experiments on insect pests on Agricultural crops and on their control in the fields. This section also carries out research and experiments on the problems of insect pests attack on different agricultural crops and plants and offers solutions for their control.

(b)—Shri A. C. Borbora, Designation: Entomologist, Assam. Qualification: B.Sc., Assoc., I. A. R. I.

(c)—The District Agricultural Staff carry out control operation in case of insect pests' attack in the cultivators' field under the expert advice and guidance of the Entomologist. In cases of epidemic special trained staff are deputed from the section.

(d)—Since 1949 the Mycologist is the over all charge of the work of this section.

(e)—No, on the contrary the Government is aware that the cultivators have become more and more insect and pesticides-minded due to the activities of this section as is evident for the necessary demands for its services received from districts.

(f)—As indicated under (a) & (b) with the strengthening of the research and field programme it will be possible to render greater service.

Assam Survey Department

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)

asked :

656. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased state—

- (a) The sanctioned strength of the Assam Survey Department in each rank and each grade and the number of post in each rank and each grade of the Department held by the indigenous people ?
- (b) What is the total budget provision for this Department during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the field staff consisting of the Khalashis and the Tindals, it entirely manned by persons recruited from outside this State ?
- (d) If so, what are the terms and conditions of recruitment these person ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that no attempt has been made by the authority to recruit local people to act as "Khalasis and the Tindals" whose work is entirely manual and never technical ?
- (f) If so, why ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the 'Khalasis and the Tindals' recruited from outside the State have been found truculent, shirking and useless in clearing jungles ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that the Assam Survey parties working on the Indo-Pak borders, are manned entirely by persons other than Assamese ?
- (i) If so, why ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

656. (a)—

Sanctioned strength		Grade	Designation	Number of posts held by indigenous people of Assam	Number of posts lying vacant at the moment
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1 posts	..	1st	.. Deputy Director of Surveys, Assam.	1	..
1 „	..	2nd	.. Assistant Director of Surveys, Assam,	..	1
1 „	..	2nd	.. Additional Assistant Director of Surveys, Assam.	1	..
1 „	..	3rd	.. Head Assistant-Cum-Accountant	1	..
1 „	..	3rd	.. Juinor Accountant	1	..
9 posts	..	3rd	.. Lower Division Assistant, etc.	8	1
5 „	..	4th	.. Chaprasis, etc.	2	..
16 „	..	3rd	.. Darftsmen	12	..
19 „	..	3rd	.. Printers	14	..
8 „	..	4th	.. Grainers, etc.	2	1
41 „	..	3rd	.. Supervisor Traversers, etc.	17	5
8 „	..	4th	.. Field staff	20	117

(b)—Total budget provision during—

1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
4,13,800	... 4,45,800	... 5,22,180

(c)—Nearly 90 per cent of the 4th grade field staff are Hazaribagh Khalasis.

(d)—These Hazaribagh khalasis are employed for a term of about 7 months during the field season. They are sent on Departmental Leave during recess season. 14 posts of Tindals held by Hazaribagh men are permanent and the

rest are temporary, based on annual sanction by the Director of Surveys, Assam.

(e)—An attempt was made to manage field survey work with local khalasis, but the local recruits did not stick to their job.

It is not a fact that the work of 4th grade field staff is entirely manual.

(f)—The survey khalasis are to work in the field for at least 8 hours per days. About 8 Khalasis are to sleep on the ground in a tent 6' x 6'. They are to cook their own food once before going out for work and again after the day's work. They must have very light kit, *i. e.* one blanket only. Heavy equipment and luggage of Khalasis make a survey party immobile. The khalasis are often required to carry the entire camp equipment from place to place. It has been found that only people from Hazaribagh and Garwal are accustomed to the hard work and life in Survey Parties almost the entire strength of khālasis in the Survey of India and other State Survey Departments are either from Hazaribagh or from Garwal. Even local Nepalis cannot stand the arduous life in Survey parties.

Local people find no attraction for employment as survey khalasis and they do not come forward for recruitment, except Camp Followers for traversers. Even as Camp Followers they do not stick to their jobs for more than 6 months.

(g)—It is not a fact that Hazaribagh khalasis are truculent, shirking and useless. These khalasis are very docile, obedient and very hard working. They are the most useful men found so far for field survey work.

(h)—None of the traversers working, at present, on the Indo-Pak boundary are Assamese.

(i)—Allotment of work in Assam Survey is not done on a racial or linguistic basis. The Deputy Director of Survey Assam uses his discretion and allots jobs on the basis of technical efficiency of different traversers. The field work in connection with Indo-Pak boundary is technically the same as other normal field work of Assam Surveys. The Director and the Deputy Director of Surveys, Assam decide the Indo-Pak boundary alignment and traversers in the field are merely doing normal traverse work.

Settings of the Land Settlement Advisory Board at Tezpur during 1957 and 1958

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked:

657. Will the Minister-in-charge, Revenue (Settlement) be pleased to state—

- (a) What dates did the Land Settlement Advisory Board at Tezpur sit during the years 1957 and 1958?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the meeting of the Land Settlement Advisory Board at Tezpur, are not being called at regular intervals and the Members thereof adopted a resolution urging upon the Deputy Commissioner to hold the meetings of the Board after every two month?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that many cases remain pending for disposal for a sufficiently long time for not convening the Board's meeting in time?
- (d) At what interval a meeting of the Land Settlement Advisory Board has to be convened by the Deputy Commissioner or the Subdivisional Officer?
- (e) Whether Government will be pleased to direct the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang to hold the meeting of the Land Settlement Advisory Board in time so that things may be disposed of quickly?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

657. (a)—After the last general election the Land Settlement Advisory Committee of Tezpur was reconstituted in July, 1957. The Committee held its meetings on the following dates of 1957 and 1958.

1957—12th September, 1957.

5th December, 1957.

1958—26th February, 1958.

20th May, 1958.

13th November, 1958.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—14 cases are pending. These cases are pending due to non-receipt of the reports from the sub-committees formed by the Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(d)—There is no prescribed time limit. The meeting of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee is called by the Deputy Commissioner or the Subdivisional Officer concerned as and when he requires advice of the Committee.

(e)—All Deputy Commissioners and Subdivisional Officers have been asked to consult the Land Settlement Advisory Committee whenever they require their advice. The Deputy Commissioner, Darrang has been directed to dispose of the pending cases in consultation with the Land Settlement Advisory Committee as early as possible.

**Transfer of "Rupit Mati" in Lohool, Bogdung, etc.,
from cultivators to non-cultivators**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked :

658. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that large area of the "Rupit Mati" (Paddy cultivable land) in Lohool, Bogdung, Chabua Fulunga Mauzas, Gharbandi Mauza and other Mauzas in Dibrugarh Subdivision has been transferred from cultivators to non-cultivator businessmen during the last 50 years or so?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that most of these non-cultivators charge very high rate from cultivators for these lands?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that sometimes they charge up to Rs.20 per bigha of land against Government land revenue of Re.1 or so?
- (d) What is the usual rate they can charge according to rule or law?
- (e) Whether Government is aware or received complaints to the effect that most of these non-cultivators do not give receipts for the money or value of money they receive from cultivators?

(f) Whether Government is aware or received complaints to the effect that these non-cultivators generally discriminate the indigenous cultivator in giving land to them for cultivation?

(g) Whether Government propose to requisition these lands from non-cultivators and settle the same with cultivators?

659. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to enquire and state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that about 20" of "Rupit Mati" (Paddy cultivable land) in Moderkhat Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision has been transferred to non-cultivators and businessmen during the last 30 years or so?

(b) Whether Government is aware or received reports to the effect that most of these non-cultivators charge very high rates from cultivators for these lands and they do not generally give receipt to the cultivators for money or value of money they received from them?

(c) Whether Government is aware that by taking advantage of ignorance of the cultivators and in many cases due to the opium habits of the cultivators the non-cultivators could procure these land from them unchecked?

(d) Whether Government is aware that transfer of land from cultivators to non-cultivators are still continuing there without prior approval of the Deputy Commissioner and such instance were confirmed by Government in reply to an Unstarred Question No.1,035 asked by the Questioner in the Assembly on the 2nd May, 1958?

(e) Whether Government is aware that occupation of waste land, grazing land, annual patta and other sarkari land by non-cultivators without prior approval of Government was found to be a regular feature in Moderkhat Mauza during the last few years?

(f) What action Government propose to take against such activities of non-cultivators and businessmen?

- (g) Whether Government propose to cancel all transfer of land from cultivators to the non-cultivators effected without prior approval of the Deputy Commissioner as required under rule 6, chapter II of part VI (page 174) of the Assam Land Revenue Manual?
- (h) Whether Government propose to requisition all paddy cultivable land in possession of non-cultivators in Moderkhat Mauza where such transfer cannot be cancelled with a view to settle the same with landless cultivators?

660. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that above 33 per cent of the "Rupit Mati" (Paddy cultivable land) in Rongagora and Tinsukia Mauzas of Dibrugarh Subdivision has been transferred from cultivators to non-cultivators during a period of last 50 years?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that most of these cultivators belonged to Mattak community?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the then British Government inserted a clause in Land Revenue Manual to protect this class of cultivators from losing land to a certain class of businessmen?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that rule 6 Chapter II in Part VI of the Assam Land Revenue Manual prohibits transferred of land from Mattaks and Ex-Tea garden labours to a particular section of businessmen without prior approval of the Deputy Commissioner?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that a substantial area of land was transferred in violation of this particular clause of the land revenue Manual during the aforesaid period?
- (f) Whether Government is aware or received complaints to the effect that most of these land-owners now charge very high rates from the real cultivators sometimes up to 20 times of the Government revenue and generally do not grant receipt for the money or value of money they receive from cultivators?

(g) Whether Government is aware that most of these landowners do not allow the cultivators to cultivate on the same plot of land for several years consecutively?

(h) Whether Government propose to requisition these lands and settle the same with local landless cultivators?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

658. (a)—Government are now aware but there might have been some transfer.

(b)—No complaint was received to this effect.

(c)—Government are not aware.

(d)—Three times the land revenue.

(e)—Government did not receive any such complaint.

(f)—Government are not aware of any such discrimination.

(g)—Government do not so proposed.

659. (a)—Government are now aware but there might have been some transfer.

(b)—No such complaints were received.

(c)—Government have received no such complaints.

(d)—Yes.

(e) There may be encroachment but it cannot be said a regular feature. All encroachers into reserves are liable to eviction.

(f)—All encroachers will be evicted irrespective of profession.

(g) & (h)—Government do not so propose.

660. (a)—Government are not aware but there might have been some transfers.

(b)—Government are not aware.

(c)—There is no clause in Land Revenue Manual giving protection to the Matak Community.

(d)—Yes, This is not a rule but an executive instructions.

(e)—Yes.

(f) & (g)—Government have received no such complaint.

(h)—Government do not so propose.

Giving effect of the recommendation of the Land Settlement Advisory Board of Barpeta

Shri MAHADEV DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked :

661. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Barpeta Subdivisional Land Settlement Advisory Board recommended for settlement of 250 bighas of land from the excess area of the Kaimary Reserve with 25 landless Scheduled Caste families of Baniakuchi village 2 years ago.

(b) If so, why the said recommendation is not given effect to up till now ?

(c) Whether the Minister will be pleased to enquire into the matter and take necessary and immediate action ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

661. (a)—The Land Settlement Advisory Board, Barpeta recommended for settlement of 269B 1K 8L of land to 32 families of Nath and Kaibarta community of Gohia and Baniakuchi villages, out of the excess area of 3,357 bighas of Kaimary P. G. R. in their meeting held on 29th January, 1954, 9th September, 1955 and 10th September 1955.

(b)—The area is under encroachment which has to be removed.

(c)—Steps are being taken to evict the encroachers during this year.

Eviction of Proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Company from Sarkari and Waste land

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

662. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to refer to the answer given to unstarred questions Nos. 1,033 and 1,034 asked by the Questioner in the Assembly on the 2nd May, 1958 and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Tea Planter (*i. e.*, Proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Company) has not yet been evicted from the sarkari and waste land in Moderkhat Mauza although it was confirmed in reply to these Questions?
- (b) What is the reason for the delay in evicting the unlawful occupant of these Grazing reserves, Annual Patta land and other sarkari land?
- (c) When the operation of eviction orders may be expected?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

662. (a) to (c)—Information has been called for from the local officer.

Forceful occupation of land by the Proprietor Moderkhat Tea Estate

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked:

663. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the then Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur Shri N. K. Rustomji enquired personally on 20th December, 1947 on the allegation of forceful occupation of land belonging to cultivators and other sarkari land by the proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Estate in Moderkhat Mouza?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Shri N. R. Rustomji, the then Deputy Commissioner, ordered the then Sub-Deputy Collector, Dibrugarh Eastern Circle, *vide* his No. 9790-R., dated the 22nd December 1947 to take immediate action (i) to call upon Srijut N. Chakravarty to vacate forthwith all sarkari land and to show cause for unauthorised occupation and (ii) to cancel forthwith all annual Pattas where it was found that the land was not in actual possession, of the patta-dars, etc.?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that Shri Altabuddin Ahmed then Extra Assistant Commissioner enquired personally on 28th October, 1947 and also the then Sub-Deputy Collector of that Circle made on spot enquiry on 15th November, 1947 ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that these two reports were contrary to what the then Deputy Commissioner found personally ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that Shri F. Rohman, the then Sub-Deputy Collector, was suspended on 13th June 1948 in this connection ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that Shri N. K. Rustomji made the enquiry on complaints made by the public headed by Shri Moneswar Dutta ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that on transfer of Shri N. K. Rustomji, Shri J. Dumbreak, i.c.s., took charge of the district and no action was taken on the aforesaid order No. 9790-R., dated the 22nd December, 1947 by the Subordinate Revenue Officers there ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that Section 144 was promulgated on Shri Moneswar Dutta and 4 others in the month of July, 1948 which was delivered to them on 28th July, 1948 with a view to suppress complaints from the cultivators and probable agitations amongst the cultivators whose lands were occupied by Shri N. Chakravarty ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that after transfer of Shri N. K. Rostamji from Dibrugarh the Local Deputy Commissioner did not take any action on the said Shri N. Chakravarty ?
- (j) Whether Government propose to direct the local Revenue Officers there to take immediate action in accordance with the order of the then Deputy Commissioner, *vide* his No. 9790-R., dated the 22nd December, 1947 ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that after transfer of Shri N.K. Rustomji, Shri N. Chakravarty, the Tea Planter, started again forceful occupation of land from cultivators in Moderkhat Mouza ?

- (l) Whether Government is aware that annual patta land belonging to one Haricharan Gogoi in Dikon Sessa Village in Moderkhat Mauza measuring .36 bighas was forcefully occupied by Shri N. Chakravarty in the year 1948-49 ?
- (m) Whether it is a fact that land covered by Dag Nos. 201, 202, 271 and 272 which belonged to cultivators were also forcefully occupied by Shri N. Chakravarty in 1948-49 ?
- (n) Whether it is a fact that in this way he again occupied a large area of land belonged to cultivators and rendered them landless ?
- (o) Whether it is a fact that the Subordinate Revenue Staff did not take action against said Shri N. Chakravarty ?
- (p) Whether it is a fact that one leading women of that area who won over a case with Shri N. Chakravarty was shot-dead at night in her residence in the year 1948-49 ?
- (q) Whether Government is aware that due to this incident and the order promulgating Section 144 on certain leading persons of the cultivating Community, the cultivators feared to make complains to the authority ?

664. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Shri N. Chakravarty, Proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Company, evicted cultivators from their land measuring about 200 bighas covered by Dag Nos. 367, 502, 503, 514, 387, 504, 505, 321, 322, 323, 310 and others in Longchual village in Lahual Mauza, Dibrugarh ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the then Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh, Mr. F. A. S. Thonson, issued standing order on 31st July 1926 that any mutation filed by Shri N. S. Chakravarty would be rejected ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to give protection to these cultivators by evicting this Tea Planter who have occupied these land forcibly ?

665. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that plots of land at Dag Nos. 709, 710, 713, 716, 725, 730, 738 and few other plots of land covered by annual pattas in Barpathar Konwar Gaon in Jamira Mauza, Dibrugarh Subdivision were occupied by the Beheading Tea Estate forcibly from occupant cultivators during 1953-54 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the public protested against the lawlessness activities of this Indian Tea concern and applied to the Deputy Commissioner on 4th January, 1954 for taking necessary action with copies to the Revenue Secretary and the Chief Secretary ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that no action in the matter has yet been taken ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to evict this Tea concern from these annual patta land and waste land ?

66. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—6

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Waste land at Dag Nos. 702 and 703 in Barpathar Konwar Gaon in Jamira Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision has been encroached by the proprietor of Beheading Tea Estate ?
- (b) When this Indian Tea Planter occupied or encroached these land ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the public have been complaining against the activities of this Planter since 4th January, 1954 ?
- (d) When eviction of this encroacher will be made ?

667. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor of the Goneshbari Tea Company is in possession of over 8,560 bighas of land mostly procured from the cultivators in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

- (b) Whether Government are aware that over 1,000 families of cultivators have thus been reduced to the position of landless cultivators ?
- (c) If not, whether Government will enquire and state the actual number of cultivators who have thus been rendered landless ?

668. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that land covered by Dag Nos. 449, 506 and 507 of periodic patta No. 85 measuring 22 bighas 4 kathas and 6 lessas in Gaohain Gaon, Moderkhat Mauza, have been forcibly occupied by the Proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Company ?

- (b) Whether Government propose to evict this Tea Planter from this forceful occupation of these “Rupit Mati” (Paddy cultivatable land) and settle the same with real cultivators ?

669. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Ganeshbari Tea Company is arranging plantation of Tea over the Sarkari Gubat in Niz Moderkhat Village in Moderkhat Mauza ?

- (b) What is the area of “Gubat” Sarkari land and annual patta land and occupied by this Tea concern in Moderkhat Mauza ?

- (c) Whether Government is aware that the local land Revenue staff has not taken adequate action as yet to evict this concern from Sarkari Gubat ?

670. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Proprietor of Beheating Tea Estate encroached three different portions of Grazing reserve on Dag No. 541 in Barpathar Konwar Gaon in Jamira Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the public complained against these encroachment to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur on 4th January, 1954 ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that the then Deputy Commissioner ordered the Sub-Deputy Collector of Dibrugarh Western Circle on 5th January, 1954 to report with encroachment case by 21st January, 1954 ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that this encroachment case is pending since then and the encroacher is still encroaching the Village Grazing Reserve without any interference from the Government Officials ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that a portion of this Grazing Reserve was used by the Villagers as burial ground ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the burial ground was destroyed by this Tea Planter and certain dead bodies were digged out while the ground was levelled ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the local public protested against this and there was fear of breach of peace in the locality and a police outpost was hurriedly sanction there to suppress any probable lawlessness ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that the police outpost was stationed in a house situated on Dag No. 734 belonging to this alleged encroacher ?
- (i) Disallowed ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that this encroachment on the part of the Tea Planter was referred to the Government at Shillong and Additional Director of Land Records II, Shri U. C. Deka, visited the spot on 24th August, 1955 ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that the President, Jamira Mauza Congress Committee wrote to the Additional Director of Land Records, Shillong on 21st February, 1956 drawing a reference of his visit at the spot of the Grazing Reserve on 24th June, 1955 ?

- (l) Whether it is a fact that the letter dated the 22nd February, 1956 from the President, Jamira Mauza Congress Committee was a registered letter and it was accepted in the office of the Director of Land Records, Shillong on 25th February, 1956 by signing the acknowledgement due ?
- (m) Whether it is a fact that after opening the letter, the cover was closed and returned to the addressee with the remarks on it "There is no Additional Director of Land Records II refused" ?
- (n) Whether it is a fact that the President, Jamira Mauza Congress Committee wrote to the Minister-in-charge of Revenue on 2nd April, 1956 pointing out the encroachment and the manner of the officials ?
- (o) Whether it is a fact that the President, Jamira Mauza Congress Committee, wrote to the Revenue Minister on 10th September, 1957 pointing out everything regarding the encroachment of the Grazing Reserve ?
- (p) Whether it is a fact that no action has yet been taken on the representations addressed to the Revenue Minister ?
- (q) When the eviction of this encroacher from Village Grazing Reserve No. 541 in Barpathar, Konwar Gaon may be expected ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

663—670—Information has been called for from the local officers.

Cancellation of periodic and annual pattas for lands occupied by displaced Muslims under Gossaigaon Sub-Deputy Collector's Circles

Shri TAMIZUDDIN PRODHANI (Dhubri) asked:

671. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that periodic and annual pattas for lands of the displaced Muslims under Gossaigaon Sub-Deputy Collector Circles, of the Dhubri Subdivision under Bijni P. S. have lately been arbitrarily cancelled and those lands have been given to some indigeneous people ?

- (b) Whether Government is aware that those displaced Muslims enjoyed those lands for the last 40 years or more ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that they come back and applied to get back their original lands ?
- (d) If so, why their original lands have not been given back to them ?
- (e) Under what principles or basis their pattas were cancelled ?
- (f) Whether they have been provided with some other suitable Khas land elsewhere ?
- (g) If not, why not ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

671. (a) to (g)—Information have been called for.

Alleged forcible occupation of land by the proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Estate

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

672. Will the Minister-in charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the total area of land against periodic patta No.85 of Halkhola Gaon in Moderghat Mouza (Dibrugarh) was 143 bighas 3 kathas and 11 lessas of which the proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Estate purchased 124 bighas from two of the joint pattader at a nominal price ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor of this Tea Estate forcibly occupied the cultivable land of the third pattader measuring about 20 bighas ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the third pattader applied to the local authority several times during the last 10 years to evict this law breaker ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that he could not get back the lands and thus suffered from poverty at last expired ?

673. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of families with the total number of population who were uprooted by last erosion of the Brahmaputra in Lahoal Mauza ?
- (b) How many of them have since been rehabilitated ?
- (c) Whether there is any proposal to rehabilitate the rest ?
- (d) If so, where ?

674. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that paddy cultivation over 170 bighas of land in Ikaratoli Khonikar, Mohanbari Hindu Gaon and Khanikar village in Lohoal Mouza (Dibrugarh) was destroyed due to the flow of wastes of the Assam Distillery ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that the value of paddy cultivation destroyed was over Rs.25,000 (Rupees twenty five thousand) ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the matter was reported to the local Deputy Commissioner and the Sub-Deputy Collector ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that the questioner wrote to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur on 28th December, 1958 again with a copy to the Revenue Minister pointing out the dag Nos. of land, with their owners and area of paddy land destroyed ?
- (e) What action has been taken by the Government to realise compensation from Assam Distillery and to pay the same to these unfortunate cultivators ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the fertility of the land in question was also damaged due to flow of the waste of the Assam Distillery ?
- (g) What action Government have taken to stop this state of thing ?

675. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the public of Dirakmukh Hahkhathi and Aroimaria areas have been complaining that the management of Dhola Tea Estate had been charging Rs.10 or so for each bullock cart that move through the Tea Estate road ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that a public petition, dated 21st August, 1958 was forwarded by the questioner to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur on 26th August, 1958 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the said road or throughfare which is required for public use was within sarkari land up to 1931 when this area was transferred to the administration of political Agency ?
- (d) What action has been taken by the Government on the different representations on this subject ?

676. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur lately received any representations from the landless and flood-affected people of Naharhaku and other villages of Moderkhat Mauza to provide them with land in wilton grant or other places in Moderkhat Mauza ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that a copy of such representation was forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh by the Questioner requesting provision of land to these landless people ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that besides wilton grant there are available land in Basmotia Tea Garden grants and other Tea Garden grants in Moderkhat Mauza ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to give lands to these landless and flood-affected people ?

677. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the landless cultivators of Rongapara Mauza lately applied for land for cultivation in Nokhrai Tea Estate and Nalani Tea Estate covered by patta Nos. 1 and 187 and 190 ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that a copy of such representation was forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur by questioner on 5th December, 1958 ?
- (c) If so, what action has so far been taken on these representations ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

672—677—Informations have been called for from the local Officers.

Settlement of Sarkari lands at Laluk in North Lakhimpur

Shri MOHENDRA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked :

678. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Government is aware that Laluk in North Lakhimpur Subdivision is a growing business centre where there are Sarkari lands ?
- (b) Whether the Government is aware that the Sarkari lands of this place are settled by local officers without any consideration to persons who have sufficient land elsewhere in the subdivision ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that Dag Nos. 220, 221, 222, 223, 224 in No. 1 Korunabori gaon of this locality were used by the local people as Pujakhola where an old house as library and club is situated for the last 5 or 6 years and used by the people of that locality ?
- (d) If so, why this very plot of land measuring about $3\frac{1}{2}$ bighas was settled and how the settlement became periodic ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to stop such indiscriminate settlement of Sarkari land in important central places, and to acquire the lands already settled with those who have land elsewhere for allotting them to the public for public purpose, e.g., puja-khola, library, etc.

679. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that in North Lakhimpur and in other temporarily-settled areas of Assam enough land though occupied by people are shown as Sarkari which tends to create a wrong impression on the people as well as Government ?
- (b) Whether Government aware that murders frequently take place in North Lakhimpur mainly due to land disputes ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to solve the land settlement problem by immediately settling all such lands with its occupiers with the help of Panchayats ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that in 1948 or 1949 such settlement was made in Dhalpur Mauza alone which increased the revenue to the tune of Rs.10,000 increased ; so will the Government do like-wise throughout the subdivision whatever may be the cost ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

678. (a) to (e)—Information have been called for.

679. (a) to (d)—Information have been called for.

Cattle tract in Phukanbari Tea Estate

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

680. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that there was a cattle tract, on a Sarkari land (Dag No.53) on the boundary of Tinkuria village and Madhubari of Phukanbari Tea Estate in Kheremia Mouza, Dibrugarh ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that this was the only way for the villagers of Tinkuria village to go to Chabua-Tengakhat Road ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor of Phukanbari Tea Estate, and Indian Planter, encouraged upon this tract and made a drain of '8' x 6' and made it impossible for the villagers to come out of the village and made the drain risky for cattle ?
 - (d) Whether it is a fact that the public have been complaining about this to the Sub-Deputy Collector, Naharkotia circle but no action has yet been taken ?
 - (e) Whether Government propose to evict the encroacher and realise compensation for the damage caused to the tract ?
681. Will the Minister of Revenue be pleased to state—
- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Sub-Deputy Collector granted annual patta to an up-country business man for 17 bighas 3 kathas 8 lessas of Sarkari land covered by Dag No.295 in Hilikhaguri village in Gharbandi Mauza (Dibrugarh) ?
 - (b) Whether it is a fact that this land has been used as grazer and as burial ground by several villages ?
 - (c) Whether Government is aware that a memorandum was submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh by the public of the locality opposing settlement of this land, on 20th December, 1956 ?
 - (d) Whether it is a fact that the representation was forwarded by Deputy Commissioner to the then Sub-Deputy Collector, Dibrugarh Eastern Circle but the Sub-Deputy Collector did not take any action on it ?
 - (e) Whether it is a fact that the public of 5 or 6 villages of Laipuli Primary Panchayat had been agitating for cancellation of the annual patta and to restore the land in question to the villagers ?
 - (f) Whether Government is aware that the President, Gharbandi Rural Panchayat represented the matter to Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh on 16th January, 1959 requestion to cancel the annual patta for this land ?
 - (g) What action has so far been taken on these representations ?

682. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the owner of a Brick field, encroached upon Sarkari land and annual patta land covered by dag Nos. 2, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 46, 47 and others at Melengal village in Moderkhat Mauza, Dibrugarh ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that this non-cultivator has been spoiling the surface of these sarkari lands ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the owners of these brick fields have been digging the bank of Sessa river without permission and the local people feared that flood waters of this river may come to the nearby villages such as Melengial, Dihingiagaon, Halkhola and others ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that the public of the locality submitted a petition on 8th November 1957 to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur ?
- (e) If so, what action has been taken on this public petition ?
- (f) Whether Government is aware that again a petition was submitted on behalf of the public on 12th December 1958 to the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur with copies to the Director of Land Records, Assam and local Member of Legislative Assembly ?
- (g) What action were taken the requests in this application ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that a resolution was adopted in a public meeting also last year pointing out the encroachment, digging of the river bank and expressing fear of flood and erosion of Joypore Road due to the digging of the bank ?
- (i) If so, what action has been taken by the local authority on all these public representations and agitations ?

683. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that lands measuring about 66 bighas covered by periodic patta No. 30 and dag Nos. 33, 35 and 52/358 at Ghagolikata village in Moderkhat mouza was transferred to a non-cultivator ?
- (b) When this land was transferred and what were the terms and conditions ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that as per land revenue manual, chapter II of part VI in rule 6 prior approval of the Deputy Commissioner was required for this transfer ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that no prior approval of the Deputy Commissioner to obtain ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to cancel this transfer ?

684. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor of Moderkhat Tea Company procured about 300 acres of land from Wilton grant ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the proprietor encroached about 1,800 acres of land of that grant ?
- (c) Whether Government propose to evict him from there and settle these land with landless cultivators ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

680 to 684.—Information have been called for from the local officer.

**Regarding hand over of forest villager's land in
Sibsagar by Government**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

685. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests Department be pleased to state—

- (a) The reasons as to why the following persons were deprived of their land in Forest Village of

Nimalia-Balijan No.1, of Deroi Reserve (Rango-li), Sibsagar Subdivision in 1956:—

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| (1) Shri Pratap Dwara, | P. O. Charing,
Village—Dwarapar,
Morabazar Mouza,
Sibsagar Subdivision. |
| (2) Shri Dimbeswar Barua, | ” ” ” |
| (3) Shri Nila Kanta Dwara, | ” ” ” |
| (4) Shri Kesha Ram Dwara, | ” ” ” |
| (5) Shri Puspa Dhar Dwara, | ” ” ” |
- (b) Whether it is a fact that they were settled there in 1950 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that they after being settled, cleared the jungles and raised crops ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that the aforesaid persons deserve land ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that they are still to be settled ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to settle land with them again ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied:

685. (a)—The reasons are stated below against each case—

(1) Shri Pratap Dwara did not occupy himself the land allotted to him within the Reserve Forest. He cleared and cultivated the land through others for 2-3 years and then voluntarily discontinued. This sort of occupation of the land by way of sub-letting it goes against the Forest Village Rules.

(2) Shri Dimbeswar Barua did not occupy at all the plot of land allotted to him and hence the allotment was cancelled.

(3)—(5) No land within the Reserve Forest was allotted to these persons. They encroached land there. They subsequently left the Reserve Forest on being served with eviction notice.

(b)—Only Shri Pratap Dwara and Shri Dimbeswar Barua were allotted land and the three others were not allotted land.

(c)—Only Shri Pratap Dwara, through others, by way of sub-letting, cleared land and raised crops, but he did not himself stay in the Reserve Forest.

(d)—In view of the reasons as stated above Government do not consider them to be deserving persons for settlement as Forest Villagers.

(e)—Government have no information.

(f)—No.

Regarding the numbers of land requisition cases in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked :

686. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of requisition cases instituted to-date, year by year in Dibrugarh subdivision showing the Mouzas separately and the areas of land against each case, since 1953 ?
- (b) The total number of allottees to whom possession has been given or allotment proposed ?
- (c) The total number of requisition cases which reached the final stage or finally disposed of, i.e., the requisitioned lands have been acquired and regular pattas issued to the allottees ? (This information may be furnished year by year and Mauza by Mauza since 1953) ?
- (d) The total number of such cases pending giving the date of requisition of land against each ?
- (e) How long a case normally takes for its final disposal ?
- (f) In how many cases requisition has been effected ?

- (g) Whether pattas have been issued to the allottees in the cases mentioned in (f) above ?
- (h) How long it will take to grant pattas to the allottees ?
- (i) Whether Government are aware that delay in disposal of requisition and acquisition cases causes serious inconvenience to the allottees and loss to Government ?
- (j) Whether Government propose to dispose of the requisition and acquisition cases promptly ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

686. (a)—A statement is placed at the Library table.

(b)—1533.

(c)—An area of B.119-4-10 lessas have been acquired under Mancotta Mouza and Pattas issued.

(d)—*Vide* column 4 of the statement noted at (a).

(e)—No time can be indicated—it may be 3 months to 5 years.

(f)—Question is not understood.

(g)—Yes, in one case noted in (c).

(h)—When the lands are acquired.

(i)—Yes.

(j)—Yes, but sometimes delay occurs for reasons beyond control of Government.

Breaches of Dehingbund, Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)

asked :

687. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that flood in Khowang, Moran, Sepon Mouzas in Dibrugarh Subdivision and Nitaipukhuri Mauza in Sibsagar Subdivision last year was due to the breach at Halodhibari village in Dehingbund ?

- (b) What was the extend of damage in these Mouzas ?
- (c) What is the total amount of money spent during the years 1956, 1957 and 1958 to prevent such breach ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware of the suspicion arising in public minds about the efficiency of the officials of the Embankment and Drainage Department ?
- (e) Whether Government have taken any action to prevent these areas from recurrence of further floods ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department (Flood Control)] replied:

687. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Information is being collected.

(c)—Rs.26,792 in 1956-57, Rs.40,890 in 1957-58.
Expenditure in 1958-59 is awaited from the Divisional Officer concerned.

(d)—No.

(e)—Construction of a strong retire bund at a sufficiently safe distance from the breach has already been taken in hand and is nearing completion.

Regarding Flood of Bogdung and Bahmoria Mauzas in Dibrugarh and their protections

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

688. Will the Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that northern part of Bogdung and Bahmoria Mouzas in Dibrugarh Subdivision has been continuously suffering from flood since the Great Earthquake, 1950 ?

- (b) Whether Government are aware that a strong Embankment would save a large area of paddy cultivable lands from the ravages of continuous floods ?
- (c) Whether Government examined the possibility of an Embankment there ?
- (d) If not, whether Government propose to examine the matter ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department) replied:

688. (a)—The low areas of these Mouzas get flooded from the spill of the Dibru and the Brahmaputra river as the beds of these rivers have gone high as a result of the Earthquake of 1950 ?

(b)—The Dibrugarh-Rongagora Road runs parallel to the Dibru river in this area at a maximum distance of a mile from the river and already affording protection to the area beyond the road. A Second Embankment between the road and the river bank is not considered economically justified and technically desirable.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Does not arise.

Regarding Brahmaputra Bund and Na-Dihing Bund

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

689. Will the Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department (Embankment and Drainage) be pleased to state—

- (a) The total estimated amount for the Brahmaputra Bund and Na-Dihing Bund in Saikhowa area and total amount spent against the original estimates ?
- (b) What is the total estimate for raising this Bund sanctioned last year and what amount spent so far against this estimate ?

(c) How far the Bund has since been raised towards the East as well as towards the West ?

(d) To what extent these are proposals to extend the Embankment on both directions ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department, (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied:

689. (a)—The total estimated amount is Rs.20 lakhs and total number spent to end of 1958-59 is Rs.17.66 lakhs.

(b)—The total estimated amount is 8.09 lakhs and expenditure to end of 1958-59 is Rs.3.00 lakhs.

(c)—The whole existing bund along the Brahmaputra and also bund along Noa-Dibing upto Bar Dirak with a total length of 22 miles has since been raised.

(d)—There are no such proposals at present.

Necessity of Embankment on the North Bank of Darika River in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

690. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (E. and D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that for want of an embankment on the north bank of Darika River in Sibsagar Subdivision a large number of villages in Konwarpore Mauza are being affected by flood every year ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the public have been moving the Government for an embankment since a long time ?

(c) Whether Government propose to construct an embankment there as early as possible ?

(d) If so, when commencement of the work may be started ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department, (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied:

690. (a)—Some villages in Konwarpore Mauza are affected by flood annually to some extent. The area is a low flood absorption basin and its problem can only be partly solved by providing quicker drainage. Embankments except in closing the spill-channels will not be a solution to the problem.

(b)—Yes.

(c) & (d)—A scheme for providing quicker drainage of the area is under preparation and will be taken up when fund permits.

Regarding Flood Affected Villages of Modarkhat Mauza, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

691. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) The number of villages that are being affected by flood of Buridihing River in Modarkhat Mauza, Dibrugarh almost every year ?

(b) Whether there is any proposal to save these villages from the ravages of recurring flood ?

(c) If so, what is that proposal ?

(d) Whether Government propose to make some of the officials responsible to see that the embankment is made effective in that area ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied:

691. (a)—The information is being collected.

(b) and (c)—An embankment along with the Buridehing has already been constructed to protect these villages from the Buridehing flood, some flooding of the area took place due to breaches in the embankment before the embankment settled and stabilised. Last year there was no breach and the area got the required protection.

(d)—Does not arise.

Regarding Settlement of the Brahmaputra Charduar Fishery at Tezpur

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla) asked:

692. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that direct settlement of the Brahmaputra Charduar Fishery at Tezpur was given to one individual, Shri Gangaram Das, ignoring the claim of a registered Co-operative Society formed by actual fishermen ?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for such settlement ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the lessee, Shri Gangaram Das, has sublet the fishery to several up-countrymen ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang, has been conducting an enquiry into the matter referred to in (c) above on receipt of a complaint from the public ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that Shri Gangaram Das does not allow local fishermen to fish in the fishery even with permit ?

(f) Whether it is a fact that numerous complaints have been submitted to Government by the public for harassment by Shri Gangaram Das ?

(g) Whether it is a fact that Shri Gangaram Das was a lessee of some excise shops ?

(h) Whether it is a fact that the Excise Department found fault with him in the management of the shop and he was not given subsequent settlement ?

(i) Whether it is a fact that Government on principle give preference to registered Co-operative Societies over an individual in the matter of settlement of fisheries, other things being equal ?

(j) What is the reason for deviation in this case ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

692. (a)—Direct settlement was given to Shri Gangaram Das on 18th March 1957, but the Co-operative Society was not formed by actual fishermen.

(b)—He said registered Co-operative Society's lease with an annual revenue of Rs.19,600 was cancelled for breach of certain terms of the lease and the fishery was settled with Shri Gangaram Das for the rest of the term at an annual revenue of Rs.25,000. The Society's appeal to the Hon'ble High Court was upheld but was reversed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, which was received too late, for settlement by public auction. In settling the fishery with Shri Gangaram Das for Rs.25,000 per annum, consideration was also given to the heavy expenditure he incurred in the said litigation.

(c)—No.

(d)—It is not a fact.

(e)—One such complaint was received.

(f)—No. There was only one complaint that the lessee was not allowing fishing (apparently on permit). This was enquired into by a Magistrate and the matter was compromised by the parties.

(g)—Yes.

(h)—Yes.

(i)—Yes, to Co-operative Societies formed by actual fishermen of the Scheduled Caste.

(j)—For breach of the lease conditions, as already stated in question (b) above.

**Amount spent for indents of drugs manufacture
by East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd.**

Dr. SRIHARI DAS asked :

693. Will the Medical Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the total amount spent for indents of drugs manufactured by East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., Calcutta, to which indents were given in 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59, by the Assam Government ? (Answer are to be given year by year)
- (b) At what rate the discount is given for buying drugs from their concern ?
- (c) What is the total amount spent for indent of drugs not manufactured by the East India Pharmaceutical works Ltd., but supplied through East India Pharmaceutical works Ltd., in 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59 ? (Answer are to be given year by year).
- (d) Whether chloromycetin (250 mg), Terramycin (250 mg), Aureomycin (250 mg), Enterioform, are supplied by East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd. to Assam Government ?
- (e) If so, what are the total quantities and the rate at which each of the medicines mentioned above in (d) above was obtained through East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd. during 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59. (Answer are to be given showing the rate against each phial of medicine containing 100 capsuls) ?
- (f) Whether any discount for buying the medicines mentioned in question (d) above was given and if so, what was the rate of discount given against each of the above medicines ?
- (g) Whether Government is to give any declaration when put in orders to any Private Medical Farm ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister) replied:

693. (a)—Figures are not readily available. These shall have to be collected from various indenting officers in the State, because local purchase is done by indenting officer in the district according to their requirement when Medical Store Depot is unable to supply.

(b)—No discount is given by any firm for supplies obtained as purchases are made on obtaining competitive quotation. Each farm has special hospital rates.

(c)—As (a) above.

(d)—Chloromycetin, Terramycin, Aureomycin and Enterovioform when required to be purchased locally are obtained from approved firms on getting quotations for the purpose. Not necessarily M/S. East India Pharmaceutical are the sole supplier.

(e)—Does not arise.

(f)—As in reply to question (b) above.

(g)—No declaration is given by Government.

Regarding payment of Compensation to the people affected in raising the Brahmaputra Bund

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)

asked :

694. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (E & D) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that compensation has been paid to the people of Dhola Tea Estate, Hahkhati Tea Estate and the people of 3 other villages on 29th May 1957 for their lands and property affected in raising the Brahmaputra Bund ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that compensation to the people of Bichonimukh, Bukapathar, Bhobankhal, Bormura, Mirigaon and Hahkhati Nepali-gaon affected by the raising of the same bund has not yet been paid ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that this discrimination in payment of compensation was questioned in this Assembly in the Budget Session of 1958 and the Minister assured to look into the matter ?
- (d) Who is the person at whose fault the payment of compensation to these villages has been delayed so long ?
- (e) What step Government propose to take into the matter ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister-in-charge, Public Works Department (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied:

694. (a)—Yes. Compensation has been paid to all the claimants except Hahkhati Tea Estate. Payment to Hahkhati Tea Estate is kept in abeyance as they have filed a petition in the Civil Court against the award.

(b)—Land Aquisition estimate has been sanctioned by Government and payment to claimants will be made soon.

(c)—Yes, the hon. Member raised the question in last Budget Session of the Assembly. Land Aquisition cases referred to in question (a) were in connection with Phase II of the work, whereas the Land Acquisition cases referred to in question (b) are in connection with Phase III of the work which was taken up at a later date. Hence, it will be apparent from these facts land acquisition proceedings were initiated as and when occasion arose, and there was no question of discrimination or delay.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Does not arise.

Regarding Government payment to Purbapar and Barbansor Rural Panchayat for repairing works of bridges and culverts

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

695. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Government have paid to the Purbapar and Barbansor Rural Panchayats the sums of Rs.5,179 and Rs.1,592 respectively being the cost for repair works of bridges and culverts which were approved and sanctioned by the Government by letter No.DP.40/55/514 of the 18th December, 1956 from Secretary, Rural Development?

(b) Whether the Minister assured the Questioner in reply to Unstarred Question No. 936 on 2nd May 1958 during the last Budget Session of the Assembly to pay the said amounts 'as soon as possible'?

(c) Whether it is fact that the matter has been reminded on several occasions to the Minister and the Department both verbally and in writing ?

(d) Whether Government propose to make payment of the sums within the current financial year of 1958-59 ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Rural Development) replied:

695. (a)—No such scheme was finally approved or sanctioned by Government as stated, but estimates are called for on the basis of Government decision to bear 75 per cent or costs of repairing bridges and culverts by the letter under reference.

(b)—Yes. But only a sum of Rs.390 per Panchayat could be sanctioned during 1957-58 out of the available provision of grants for rural communication within Panchayat areas. The amounts recommended on the basis of 75 per cent could therefore be paid only partially.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—There was no provision for further payment during 1958-59.

Regarding "NIS PIKHERAS" and "Evacuee Management Committee"

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

696. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) When the "Evacuee Management Committee" was formed by the Government ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Government permitted all the local tribal people to settle on the "Nispikheras" land of Shri Prafulla Goswami of Majukusi Mauza, Kalaigaon Circle of Mangaldai Subdivision, Gauhati before the arrival of the refugees who came with the Exchange Certificate from the "East Pakistan" ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that an amount of Re.1-4-0 (Rupee one and annas four) only was realised in the form of revenue from each bigha of each Block, after only deviding the whole plot of land into different "Blocks" on a village basis ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that in the meantime the "Evacuee Management Committee" realised an amount of Rs.10 (Rupees ten) or one maund of paddy per bigha by issuing a notice of encroachment from the people who occupied land ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that a Government Officer, namely, Shri Prabhat Goswami, Gauhati realised the revenue of Rs.10 (Rupees ten) or one maund of rice for [this Block on behalf of this Committee ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that Government recruited this "Nispikheras" land ?
- (g) If so, when ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that the land was returned to Shri Goswami with Rs. 72,000 (Rupees seventy-two thousand) to make up the loss ?
- (i) If so, why ?
- (j) What is the total quantity of land of Shri Goswami ?
- (k) Whether Government is aware of the fact that now the owner of this land Shri Goswami is realising Rs.2 (Rupees two) in form of revenue and Rs. 30 (Rupees thirty) as "Salami" for the refugees ?
- (l) Whether Government is aware of the fact that Shri Goswami is in-charge of the said revenue and "Salami" for the refugees and the local tribal people for both the "evacuee land" and other level ?

- (m) Whether Government will stop these Salami and revenue ?
- (n) Whether Government will recruit this plot of "Nispikheras" land at an early date and distribute among the local people ?
- (o) What is the total number of the owners of the Nispikheras land in this Mauza ?
- (p) What is the total amount of money Government get from each bigha of land in the form of revenue ?
- (q) What is the quarter of land occupied by each of them ?
- (r) Whether Government will recruit these lands for these owners also ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

696. (a) to (r)—Information have been called for.

Regarding the grant to M.E. Schools through Mangaldai Local Board

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaoon) asked:

697. Will the Minister, Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government had sanctioned some amount of grants through the Mangaldai Local Board to some of the M. E. Schools in the year 1958, and the said grants have not yet been given to the Schools concerned and if so, why ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Government had sanctioned an amount of Rs.1,000 to the Balabari M. E. Madrassa through the Mangaldai Local Board in the year 1955 and that the said grant has not yet been given to the Madrassa ?
- (c) If so, why ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L.S.-G.) replied:

697. (a)—No.

(b)—No.

(c)—Does not arise.

Regarding revision of pay scale of Government Press-Piece Workers

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRADHANI (Golakganj) asked :

698. Will the Minister-in-charge of Printing and Stationery be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Industrial Tribunal had recommended for the conversion to time scale of pay for the Piece Workers of the Assam Government Press ?

(b) If so, when the same will be given effect to ?

(c) What benefit did Government give to the Piece Workers besides *ad-interim* relief since 1947, when other classes of Government servants of the State had enjoyed three revisions of pay scales ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that Government granted Rs.3 as house rent allowance for Grade IV employees of Industrial Section in Shillong ?

(e) Whether Government is aware that Rs.3 is not sufficient to meet the high rate of house rent in Shillong ?

(f) Why the other Industrial workers of the Assam Government Press are not being given the facilities of house rent as they work from 7 a. m. to 8 p. m. ?

(g) Why the grant of *ad-hoc* increment for the Industrial workers of the Assam Government Press is being delayed ?

(h) Whether the Minister-in-charge will be pleased to lay on the table a copy each of Reports of the Assam Government Press for the years 1956-57 to 1958-59 ?

(i) Whether it is a fact that Rs.3 and Rs.5 had been given as an increased of pay for low paid Government servants drawing the pay below Rs.100 per month during 1954 to all employees in the State ?

(j) If so, why the above concession had not been allowed to the piece workers of the Assam Government Press whose earnings according to the Class rate are less than Rs.100 ?

PU LALMAWIA (Parliamentary Secretary) replied:

698.—For Question Nos. (a) to (g), the hon. Member may kindly refer to the replies to Question Nos. 431 (a) to (g) asked by Shri Khogen Barbaruah, Member, Legislative Assembly in this Session of the Assam on the 7th April 1959.

(h) The Annual Reports for the years 1956-57 to 1957-58 are under preparation and that of 1958-59 has not yet been taken in hand

(i) Yes, initial benefit of Rs.3 and Rs.5 had been given to the employees on time-scales of pay below Rs.100.

(j) The class-rate of the piece workers have not been revised and as such, they have not been given benefit.

Damages due to the breaches of embankment of Dehing Bund in Khowang area

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

699. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (E and D) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there were breaches in 1956-57 and 1958 on the embankment of Dehing Bund at Haldhibari in Khowang area ?

- (b) What was the extent of damage done every year ?
- (c) What was the amount of money spent every year for repair of the breaches at Haldhibari ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the public moved last year to take effective measure to prevent breach in the bund ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that discussion was also made in this House last year urging upon the Government to take effective measure ?
- (f) What action has so far been taken by Government on these requests ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister, P.W.D. (Flood Control and Irrigation Wing)] replied :

699. (a)—Yes.

(b)—150 ft., 300ft. and 500ft. of the Bund were washed away in 1956-57 and 1958 respectively and flood water rushing through the gaps affected the adjoining country-side to some extent.

(c)—Rs.26,792 in 1956-57, Rs.40,890 in 1957-58. Expenditure for 1958-59 is awaited from the Divisional Officer concerned.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—A fresh retirement is under construction at a sufficiently safe distance from the breach after acquiring some homestead land under periodic patta. The work is almost complete and is expected to be quite effective in preventing further breach at this highly vulnerable point where three newly developed spill channels of considerable force have been forcing their way into the countryside through Dikharijan an old drainage *cum* spill channel closed by the marginal embankment.

Regarding cancellation of P.W.D. (E. & D.) Contract

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

700. Will the Minister, P.W.D. (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that certain contract work was settled with one Arun Chandra Handhiguri of Dhola (Saikhowaghat P.O.) within Dibrugarh E. & D. Subdivision ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that this work was cancelled without any warning, *vide* letter No.326, dated 26th January 1959 issued by the Subdivisional Officer, E. & D., Dibrugarh.

(c) Why his contract was cancelled ?

(d) Who was the Overseer-in-charge of the work ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister P.W.D., Flood Control) replied :

700 (a) to (d)—Information are being collected.

Regarding the completion of Earth-work in Phase III in 1956-57

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)

asked :

701. Will the Minister, P.W.D. (E. & D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the work allotted to contractors in 1955-56 to do earthwork in Phase III was completed in 1956-57 ?

(b) Whether final payment to them has since been made for that work ?

(c) If not, why there is delay ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the work done at Waket bund was completed ?

(e) If so, when the work was completed ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, P.W.D.) replied :

701. (a) to (e)—Information are being collected.

**Regarding number of Cattle died in Epidemic in the State
and Cattle Loan to the people**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked:

702. Will the Minister, Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of cattle died of epidemic last year throughout the whole State of Assam (information to be supplied district-wise) ?
- (b) The number of cattle died of epidemic in the Sub-division of Sibsagar in the same year ?
- (c) The number of cattle died in Jakaichuk, Morabazar, Dopdar and Salaguri Mauzas of Sibsagar Subdivision in the year 1958 ?
- (d) The number of families affected in the State by such cattle mortality (figures to be shown district-wise) ?
- (e) The number of families similarly affected in Sibsagar Subdivision in the said year ?
- (f) The number of families affected in Jakaichuk, Morabazar, Salaguri and Dopdar Mauzas of Sibsagar Subdivision in the year 1958 ?
- (g) The amount of cattle loan advanced for the whole State and for each district during the said year ?
- (h) The amount of cattle loan advanced for Sibsagar Subdivision and for Jakaichuk, Morabazar, Salaguri, Dopdar, Joktali and Gadhulibazar Mauzas of Sibsagar Subdivision in the year 1958 ?
- (i) Whether Government is aware that the loan advanced for Sibsagar Subdivision was inadequate with its demand and was not timely distributed ?
- (j) Whether Government will advance cattle loan adequately and timely ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied:

702. (a)—District-wise figures are given below—

Name of district	No. of cattle mortality
1. Goalpara	1,667
2. Garo Hills	237
3. Kamrup	946
4. Nowgong	172
5. Sibsagar	1,593
6. Lakhimpur	1,416
7. Cachar	1,468
8. Khasi and Jaintia Hills	455
9. Mikir and North-Cachar District	1,188
Total	<u>9,142</u>

(b)—1118.

(c)—1. Jakaichuk Mauza	354
2. Morabazar including Dopdar	30
3. Salaguri Mauza	56

(d)—District-wise figures are not readily available and are being collected and will be furnished when ready.

(e)—240.

(f)—1. Jakaichuk	48
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Figures in respect of other Mauzas are being collected and will be furnished when ready.

(g)—Rupees 12,06,280 for the whole State. The district-wise figures are as follows—

					Rs.
1. Lakhimpur	..	...	...	..	2,50,000
2. Sibsagar District		...	...	...	2,75,500
3. Darrang	..	...	...	...	45,780
4. Nowgong	..	...	...	...	1,50,000
5. Kamrup	..	...	...	...	1,45,000
6. Goalpara	..	...	...	...	1,65,000
7. Cachar	..	...	...	...	1,75,000
Total					12,06,280

(h)—

					Rs.
Sibsagar Subdivision	...	...	...	...	1,50,000
Jakaichuk Mauza	...	...	...	...	12,000
Morabazar	..	...	...	...	7,600
Salaguri	..	...	...	...	7,000
Dopdar	..	...	...	...	3,000
Joktali	..	...	...	...	1,500
Gadhulibazar	..	...	...	...	3,000

(i) & (j)—Loans are sanctioned by Government on the basis of demands made by the District and Subdivisional Officers subject to the availability of funds.

The loans are issued as early as possible after observing the procedure for issue of such loans.

Regarding Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools and their pay scale in the State of Assam

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)
asked:

703. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) What is the minimum educational qualification required for an Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools?

- (b) What are the different scales of pay fixed for the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools ?
- (c) What are the specific duties allotted to the Sub-Inspector of Schools ?
- (d) Whether all the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools discharge the same duties ?
- (e) If so, why there is difference of pay-scales in this service ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that under the present scales of pay given to the Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools the Under-Graduates and Matric-Normal passed Assistant Sub-Inspectors get less pay than the Matriculate Assistant Sub-Inspectors putting up for the same length of service or even than incumbents junior to them ?
- (g) Whether there are selection grade posts for this cadre of service ?
- (h) If so, how many ?
- (i) If not, whether Government propose to create some ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that the Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools through their Association submitted several representations praying for opening the avenue of promotion of experience and efficient Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools ?
- (k) If so, what decision has been arrived at by the Government regarding this matter ?
- (l) Whether it is a fact that there are precedents of promoting some Assistant Sub-Inspectors to Sub-Inspectors of Schools ?
- (m) Whether Government will be pleased to make promotion of experience and efficient Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Schools to Sub-Inspectors of Schools and thus make room for their future prospects ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

703. (a)—Intermediate passed or Normal passed Matriculates are appointed as Assistant Sub Inspector of Schools. In special circumstances, Matriculates are also appointed as Assistant Sub-Inspector of Schools.

(b)—1. Rs.75—3—105—(E.B.)—4—125 for Normal passed Matric or Intermediate.

2. Rs.60—2—80—(E.B.)—2½—100 for Normal passed Non-Matric.

3. Rs.60—4—80—(E. B.)—4—100—(E. B.)—5—125 for Matriculates.

All get House rent of Rs.15 per month.

(c)—They are to inspect Primary Schools under the advice and guidance of the Sub-Inspector of Schools.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—The revised pay-scales of 1956 have been prescribed on qualification basis and hence the difference in pay-scale.

(f)—No.

(g)—No.

(h)—Does not arise.

(i)—The matter is under consideration.

(j)—Yes.

(k)—Their cases are being examined by the Government.

(l)—No. There are some cases of promotion but these are in exceptional cases only.

(m)—No, in view of the fact that the minimum qualification for appointment as Sub-Inspector of Schools is a Degree of a recognised University with 5 years' teaching experience.

Regarding Supply Advisory Board distribution of controlled commodities by E. A. C., Barpeta

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

704. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) When the last meeting of the Barpeta Supply Advisory Board was held ?
- (b) Why no meetings have been held since then ?
- (c) How many bundles of C. I. Sheets and how many bags of Cement were distributed by the Senior E. A. C., Barpeta without consulting the Supply Advisory Board since its constitution ?
- (d) Why did he distribute them without consulting the Supply Advisory Board ?
- (e) Whether Milk powder, Maida and Atta and other controlled commodities distributed by the E. A. C. without consulting the Board ?
- (f) If so, whether Government proposes to enquire into it ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that controlled commodities are not available at Government fixed prices in Barpeta ?

(h) If so, why ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied:

704. (a)—On 12th December, 1958.

(b)—Owing to improved Supply position of cement throughout the country, permit system on the distribution of cement at Stockists' level was abolished in Assam with effect from 30th December, 1958 as per Government of India's decision. Besides, no consignment of C. I. Sheets arrived at Barpeta after October, 1958 upto now. Hence, no meeting of the Supply Advisory Board was held after 12th December, 1958 for distribution of these materials.

(c)—No such distribution was made since the functioning of the Supply Advisory Board with effect from 1st November, 1958.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Milk Powder, Maida and Atta are distributed by local offices according to the standing instructions of Government. It is considered not necessary to consult the Supply Advisory Board while the procedure of distribution has been laid down by Government. Milk Powder and Atta are allowed to be sold freely at the prices fixed by the local officers. The price of flour has been statutorily fixed and its sale is arranged through retailers selected by local officers according to the Government instruction.

(f)—Does not arise.

(g)—No. Atta, Maida and Milk Powder are sufficiently available at controlled price at Barpeta. Demand for these commodities at Barpeta is also not at all high.

(h)—Does not arise.

**Regarding Appointment of Manager of Barpeta
Government Emporium**

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

705. Will the Minister of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Who is the Manager of Barpeta Government Emporium, when he was appointed, and what is his present salary ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that just before his appointment an advertisement was used stating that candidate having the qualification of Intermediate in Arts will be taken ?

(c) If so, whether it is a fact that a candidate named Shri Jatindra Nath Das of Ganukkuchi being more qualified than the present Manager was not appointed at that time ?

(d) What are the reason for not appointing a more qualified person as manager than the present one ?

(e) How many years a Government office like the Manager of Barpeta Government Emporium can stay at one place without any transfer, according to principle fixed by Government ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHY (Minister of Industries) replied:

705. (a)—Shri Dayal Ch. Pathak. He was appointed Manager on 1st March, 1955. His present pay is Rs.125.

(b) to (d)—Information is being collected.

(e)—No definite period has been fixed for this category of post.

Regarding Temporary Bamboo Bridges of North Gauhati-Hajo-Nalbari Road

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked:

706. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R.&B.) be pleased to state—

(a) The expenditure incurred by the Department for construction of cold weather bridge at Bijlighat on North Gauhati-Hajo-Nalbari Road year by year for the last ten years?

(b) How long the bamboo bridge stands every year (an average to be given)?

(c) What are the sale proceeds of the bridge materials, year by year, for the last ten years?

(d) Whether Government are aware that the road passes through a very thickly populated area connecting many important places having a heavy traffic?

(e) What is the estimated cost of construction of the bridge?

(f) Whether Government proposed to construct the bridge from State Funds?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R.&B.)] replied:

706. (a)—No, cold weather bridge was constructed before 1955-56. The expenditures incurred since the year 1955-56 are given below:—

Year				Expenditure Rs.
1955-56	...	...	...	3,448
1956-57	...	...	...	3,356
1957-58	...	...	...	7,157
1958-59	..	...	...	6,451

(b)—Average 5 months since construction in December, till first flood in May or June.

(c)—

Year				Sale proceeds
1955-56	...	...	Nil.	The cold weather bridge was washed away by floods during the last part of April 1956.
1956-57	...	...	Rs.57	
1957-58	...	...	Rs.75	
1958-59	...	...	Still carrying traffic.	

(d)—Yes. The road connects many thickly populated villages. Traffic is not considered very heavy.

(e)—The estimated cost of construction of a permanent bridge will be Rs.4,00,000 approximately. Approximate length 400' feet.

(f)—The proposal will be sent to the Subdivisional Development Board for initial consideration when new road development programmes are to be drawn up.

Regarding maintenance of Rani Nongkhlaw Bridle Road, Shillong

U JOR MANIK SYIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

707. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Rani Nongkhlaw bridle road is being maintained by the Public Works Department of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills ?
- (b) If so, what was the amount sanctioned for its maintenance in 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (c) How many bridges or culverts were repaired in these two years and what were the sum allotted for these items ?
- (d) Who is in direct charge of the Rani Nongkhlaw bridle road ?
- (e) Whether the road was ever inspected by any District Officer of Gazetted rank ?
- (f) Whether the district road Overseer submitted any diary or maintained a measurement book for works done in this road ?
- (g) What is the amount, if any, spent this year on bridges of this road ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI, (Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)) replied:

707. (a)—There is no bridle path as Rani Nongkhlaw bridle road in the books of Public Works Department. It is presumed the hon. Member means the bridle path from Mawphlang to Jirang via Nongkhlaw. This is being maintained by the Deputy Commissioner, in charge Public Works Department United Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

(b)—Rs.33,425 in 1957-58, and
Rs.32,647 in 1958-59.

(c)—Forty-eight culverts and 20 bridges were repaired in 1957-58 at a total cost of Rs.16,986 and 10 bridges and 11 culverts were repaired in 1958-59 at a cost of Rs.9,287.

(d)—The Mawphlang-Nongklaw bridle path is under the direct charge Deputy Commissioner., United Khasi and Jaintia Hills.

(e)—Yes. The Mawphlang-Nongkhlaw bridle path was inspected by the Deputy Commissioner in March, 1957, Sub-Divisional Officer, Public Works Department, Mairang in March, 1958 and Additional Deputy Commissioner in March, 1959.

(f)--Yes.

(g)—An amount of Rs.8,510 was spent for repairing 10 timber bridges.

Regarding increase of buses and permits in Barpeta

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

708. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government proposed to give more bus permits in the following lines :

(1) Barpeta-North Gauhati *via* Hajo.

(2) Barpeta-North Gauhati *via* Sarthebari.

(3) Barpeta-North Gauhati *via* Pathsala.

(4) Barpeta-Chenga-Damlasal.

(5) Barpeta-Tarabari and.

(6) Barpeta-Sarthebari.

(b) If so how many extra permits have been given in each of the above lines and since when the buses will ply ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that some buses plying in the Barpeta North-Gauhati line are very old and are not in proper order ?

(d) If so, whether Government propose to condemn these old buses ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

708 (a)—The Regional Transport Authority have advertised for issue of the following additional bus permits route by route—

Route	Existing No. of permits	Proposed increased in No. of permits	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(1) Barpeta North Gauhati via Hajo.	new route	6	6
(2) Barpeta North Gauhati via Sarthebari and (6) Barpeta-Sarthebari.	6	10	16
(3) Barpeta-North Gauhati Path-sala.	9	1	10
(4) Barpeta-Chenga-Damlasal and	19	1	20
(5) Barpeta-Tarabari ...			
(6) Barpeta-Barpeta Road Bashbari route has been extended upto Damlasal and Tarabari via Vella.			

(b)—Please refer to reply to question (a). Advertisement has already been made and the application will be received upto 10th April, 1959. Buses will be placed on routes soon after a decision is taken by the Regional Transport Authority.

(c)—The buses are road worthy and passed as fit for use by the Motor Vehicles Inspector.

(d)—Does not arise.

Regarding Advisory Council to development of Industries

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA (Sonai) asked:

709. Will the Minister-in-charge of Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any Advisory Council for development of Industries in Assam has been set up by the Government?

- (b) If so, on what basis the members there of have been selected ?
- (c) Whether the Government have taken regional interest into consideration in the selection of members ?
- (d) Whether any member has been taken from the District of Cachar and its neighbouring areas ?
- (e) If not, why not ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRRSAD TRIPATHI (Minister in-charge of Industries) replied:

709. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Representative of Chamber of Commerce, Local Industrialists and officials, prominent Industrialists and experts from outside the State, Members of Legislative Assembly and Member Parliamentary.

(c)—No.

(d)—Shri Chatra Singh Teron of United Mikir and North Cachar Hills. There is however no member from Cachar District.

(e)—Does not arise in view answer to (c) above.

Regarding requisition of Tea Garden lands to settle by Land Settlement Advisory Board, Tezpur

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchella) asked :

710. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue (Settlement) be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the number of proposals for dereservation of P. G. Rs pending for inquiry in Tezpur Subdivision?
- (b) What is the number of proposals for dereservation of V. G. R. pending for enquiry in Tezpur Subdivision?
- (c) What is the number of proposals for requisition of Tea garden lands pending for enquiry in Tezpur Subdivision?

(d) How long they are pending?

(e) Whether Government will be pleased to direct the Deputy Commissioner, Darrang to finalise these proposals expeditiously and place them before the Land Settlement Advisory Board for decision?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

710. (a)—Two. Pending for complance of formalities necessary for dereservations of Grazing grounds.

(b)—Seven.

(c)—Four.

(d)—Since 1958.

(e)—The proposals for requisition of Tea garden land were discussed in the Land Settlement Advisory Committee on 14th February, 1959. The Committee recommended that these proposals may wait till finalisation of the agreement arrived at between the owners of Tea Estate and the Government.

Regarding settlement of Balebhita's lands

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

711. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Since when the case of settlement of land of Balebhita is pending?

(b) What is the reason for delay in making the settlement?

(c) When the lands will be distributed?

(a) How many bighas of lands are there at Bobhita?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

711. (a)—Since 1955.

(b)—The area is under encroachment of 103 encroachers. This has caused delay.

(c)—As soon as the encroachers are evicted which is expected to be done during this year.

(d)—376 bighas.

**Regarding Kardeguri-Bamakhatar Public Works
Department Road to be completed by
general maintenance fund, Barpeta**

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

712. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Kardeguri-Bamakhatar Public Works Department road under the Barpeta Subdivision will be completed during the current financial year before 31st March, 1959 ?
- (b) If not, why not ?
- (c) Whether the road will be completed during this financial year out of the money for the general maintenance of the roads ?
- (d) If not, why not ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied :

712. (a)—All works except 50 per cent of 6 Nos. of culverts and gravelling have been completed.

(b)—Work having been taken up under the Plan is to be completed within the Plan period.

(c) & (d)—Do not arise.

**Regarding Narihapa bridge to be completed by
general maintenance fund**

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS asked :

713. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether complaint have lately been received by Government from the local public of Burali in connection of the Narihapa Bridge on the Kardeguri-Barmakhata Public Works Department road ?
- (b) If so, what are those complaints ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that Narihapa bridge is in a tottering condition ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that due to certain portion of the bridge remaining incomplete the public cannot cross either side of the road and they suffer most ?
- (e) If so, whether the bridge and incomplete portion of the road will be completed from general maintenance fund or any sources during the current financial year before 31st March, 1959 ?

(f) If not, why not ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied:

713. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A complaint from the President, Uttar Bajali Mandal Congress Committee was received on 9th February, 1959 about the untrafficable condition of the bridge and making it useful.

(c)—There has been damages to the bridge due to lateral displacement of bearing beams in executing earthwork to the bridge approaches.

(d)—As the bridge has been damaged, it is natural that some difficulties are there for crossing the bridge.

(e)—No. The question of repairing the bridge is under consideration. The whole length of 5.0 miles of the road has been taken up under 5 Year Plan and is expected to be completed by early current year.

(f)—The works on the Schemes under the plan are to be completed within the Plan period.

Regarding gravelling Jhanji-Mokokchung Road, Sibsagar

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

714. Will the Minister, Public Works Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Jhanji-Mokokchung Road (via Amguri) of Sibsagar Subdivision is gravelled and asphalted, at least from Jhanji to Ladoigarh ?

- (b) If not, why not ?
- (c) Whether in view of the heavy traffic Government propose to gravel and asphalted this portion of the road ?
- (d) If so, whether Government will be pleased to take action at an early date ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P.W.D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied:

714. (a)—There is no such Public Works Department road as mentioned by the hon. Member. There is a Public Works Department road from Jhanji to Amguri Railway Station Road called Amguri Station Road and also a road from Amguri to Mokokchung. These are gravelled roads and not asphalted.

(b), (c) & (d)—In view of reply to (a) above the question of gravelling does not arise. As regards asphaltting, there is at present no proposal to asphalt the roads.

Regarding delay in awarding stipends to Plains Tribal Students, Assam

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

715. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Why there was delay in sanctioning stipends of the Plains Tribal Students in the State of Assam during the year 1958-59 ?
- (b) Whether steps will be taken for early sanctioning of stipends to the deserving Plains Tribal Students in future ?
- (c) If not, why not ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

715. (a)—The stipends have been sanctioned. The delay was due to the fact that the required particulars were not received in time from the institutions concerned.

(b)—Steps have already been taken.

(c)—Does not arise.

Regarding Curriculum and Text Books for Class VIII and Scholarships for M.E. & L.P. Examinations 1956-57, 1957-58

Shri RAM NATH SARMA (Lumding) asked:

716. Will the Education Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that no curriculum and text-books have been prescribed for Class VIII of the High Schools in Assam and if so, why?
- (b) When the scholarships results for Middle English and Lower Primary Examinations were published for the year 1956-57 and 1957-58?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

716. (a)—There are prescribed curriculum and text books for Class VIII of High Schools. In the case of Higher Secondary Schools, necessary curriculum has already been prescribed for Class VIII. In absence however of the new Text Books under the revised curriculum, the old Text Books, i.e., those meant for Class VIII of High Schools, are being follow in the Higher Secondary School also.

(b)—The Scholarship results for Middle English Examination were published for:—

1956—In November, 1957.

1957—In January, 1959, and those for Lower Primary Examination were published for:—

1956-57—In August, 1957 by the Goalpara, Nowgong, and Jorhat School Boards, in November, 1957 by the Dibrugarh and Dhubri School Boards and in September, 1957 by other School Boards.

1957-58—In May, 1958 by the Gauhati and Mari-goan School Boards and in March, 1958 by the other School Boards.

Regarding storm-damage grant and Education fund to Bhergaon M.V. School

Shri PAKHI RAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

717. Will the Minister, Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Bhergaon Government M.V. School building was damaged by Storm ?

(b) If so, whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned Rs. 3,750 from Government storm-damage grant and Rs. 2,500 from Education fund to rebuild the building of the said school ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the work of re-construction or repairing the school building is not done yet ?

(d) If so, why ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

717. (a)—It was reported during 1957-58 that the school was so damaged.

(b), (c) & (d)—A Storm-damage grant of Rs. 3,750 was sanctioned. Informations on other points are being collected.

Regarding remission of school fees of flood affected students

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

718. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state —

(a) Whether it is a fact that a meeting of the students of flood affected area of Moran, Khowang, Sepon, Larna and Lengeri was held on 18th February, 1959, in the premises of Sarangala M. E. School and adopted a resolution urging upon the Government to grant remission of fees to the students of flood affected families ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that Government is giving due consideration on the subject ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

718. (a) & (b)—The matter is being enquired into.

**Regarding objection of Inundated lands in
Sibsagar**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

719. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (E.&D.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the embankment on the right bank of river Mitong of Jakaichuk Mouza under Sibsagar Subdivision has inundated several bighas of land ?

(b) If so, how many bighas of land have been inundated ?

(c) Why the embankment is not raised just by the bank of the river and why it is joined with the Dikhowmukh Ali ?

(d) Whether the people of Bharalua, Deoghoria and Miri, etc., objected to this ?

(e) Whether Government will be pleased to construct the (Embankment) Mothauri just by the bank of the river ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [Minister-in-charge, P.W.D. (Flood Control)] replied :

719. (a)—The area between the right bank of the Mitong River and Bar-Ali (Dikhowmukh Ali) used to get inundated annually during flood season by the Mitong and the Brahmaputra. After construction of the embankment on the right bank of the Mitong, this area except the portion lying between the river and the embankment has been protected from inundation.

(b)—Information regarding the area in bighas lying between the river and the embankment to which presumably the hon. Member's question refers to is being collected.

(c)—It is not technically sound to construct embankment just by the side of the river. The embankment is butted against Dikhowmukh Ali to exclude the low-lying area near Jakaisuk bund for its reclamation.

(d)—Yes.

(e)—No.

Regarding distribution of lands to erosion affected families of Bhagnamari P. G. R., Kamrup

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

720. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) What is the actual area of Bhagnamari P. G. R. within Kamrup district ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that villages Nos. 1, 2, 3, Bagnaputa, N. C. Balarchar and Lautoli in Mauza Barkhetri have been eroded by the River Brahmaputra and lands have been raised on the other side of the River Brahmaputra adding the area of the Bhagnamari P. G. R. ?

(c) If so, what is the area of this khas land which is now with the Bhagnamari P. G. R. and what is the number of families rendered homeless by erosion of these villages ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the river eroded people of Nos. 1, 2, 3, Bagnaputa, N. C. Balarchar and Lautoli whose lands have been eroded and raised adding to the Bhagnamari P. G. R., have been filing petition before the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup to settle those khas lands with them ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

720. (a)—28,444 B. 4 K. 16 L.

(b)—Yes, there was some erosion of these villages. But the accretion of 8,075 bighas of land in Bhagnamari P. G. R. is not necessarily due to erosion of these villages. There was erosion of one part of Bhagnamari P. G. R. and accretion in other part.

(c)—There was no khas land. The area of 8,075 bighas forms a part of the P. G. R.

(d)—Some persons applied for settlement of land in the P. G. R. But no settlement could be granted in view of the fact that dereservation of land from the P. G. R. would adversely affect supply of milk, dairy produce and draught cattle. The L. S. A. C. also opposed the idea of dereservation of land from this P. G. R. because the existing area is considered insufficient for 2,583 buffaloes and 2,515 cattle assessed to grazing tax and tended in the P. G. R.

Regarding Scheme of Multipurpose School and grants to it

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUAH (Katonigaon)

asked:

721. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) When the scheme of Multipurpose schools will be implemented ?
- (b) How many schools have been taken so far ?
- (c) What is procedure of selecting schools for multipurpose scheme ?
- (d) What is the procedure of recruiting or appointing the teachers for various subjects of multipurpose schools ?
- (e) What is the total amount so far spent for equipments of these schools since the scheme was taken up ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that the furniture which were made for those schools since two or three years back have greatly deteriorated due to bad timber ?
- (g) Whether these were supplied departmentally or schools were entrusted to get these things done ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

721. (a)—The Scheme is being implemented since 1955-56, i. e., the last year of the First Five Year Plan.

(b)—The schools so far taken up for conversion into M. P. Schools are 19 (nineteen) excluding the Government High School at Kohima, Naga Hills.

(c)—The principles of selecting High Schools for conversion into Multipurpose Schools are based on location, roll-strength, staff, accommodation, etc., of the schools concerned.

(d)—Regular appointment to the posts of teachers for Government Multipurpose Schools are made on the recommendations of the Assam Public Service Commission. Pending such appointment teachers are appointed under Regulation 3 (e) of Assam Public Service Commission. As regards appointment in Government Aided Multipurpose Schools, appointment are made by the respective Committees on recommendation of the Selection Committee constituted for the purpose.

(e)—Rs.9,45,500 (Rupees nine lakhs fourty-five thousand and five hundred).

(f)—Government have no information.

(g)—The Development Committee specially constituted by Government to take up construction works and supervise utilisation of Government grants sanctioned for the Aided Multipurpose Schools are also entrusted with the purchase of furniture for the Schools concerned.

In the case Government Multipurpose Schools the purchases are done by the School authorities.

Regarding the effect of Pagladia, Nona embankment and havoc caused to the People

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

722. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) How many families were displaced on construction of marginal embankments of Pagladiya, Nona and Baralia in 1954 and thereafter ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that all the displaced landless families were informed by the local Revenue Officers that they would be provided with Government lands elsewhere on the basis on 7 bighas per family ?

- (c) Why these people were not provided with lands as promoted elsewhere ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that in failure to provide alternative Government lands as promised, the eroded people had no other alternative but to take shelter in certain reserves including Angarkata in Tamulpur circle ?
- (e) Why these flood and embankment eroded people have been evicted under such circumstances ?
- (f) What measures Government propose to take rehabilitate immediately the effected people ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

722. (a)—1,051 families.

166 families in Rangia circle

200 „ „ Hajo „

685 „ „ Nalbari „

(b)—No such assurance was given.

(c)—The question does not arise as no promise was held out. However steps have been taken to provide homestead land to them.

(i)—Rangiya circle—Steps have been taken to rehabilitate those who could not shift to their own lands in the dereserved portion of Sathanow and Naherbari V. G. Gs.

(ii)—Hajo circle—Those who could not shift to their own lands, have been allotted $\frac{1}{2}$ bigha per family at the following villages, viz., Saniadi, Charabari, Solmari No.2, Hanapara, Hablakha of Ramdia mouza and Singimari of Pub-Bongsor mauza and Adabari, Sagarkuchi of Pub-Barkhetri mouza.

(iii)—Nalbari—All the displaced families of this circle have been allotted $2\frac{1}{2}$ kathas of land within the dereserved portion of Nakheti and Ulabari V. G. Gs. though only 73 families have been shifted there so far.

(d)—Government have no such information.

(e)—Eviction was carried out under the recent Land Settlement Policy of Government as none of the encroachers entered into the P. G. R. with permission from of intimation to the Deputy Commissioner.

(f)—Steps have already been taken to rehabilitate as stated at (c).

Regarding the Borbala P. G. R. occupied by People

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

723. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) When the Borbala P. G. R. in Barpeta Sub-division was allowed to be occupied by the people ?

(b) To whom the reserve was allowed to be occupied ?

(c) Whether these people were given pattas ?

(d) If so, why the pattas were cancelled ?

(e) Whether they have been given lands elsewhere ?

(f) What is the direction of the Government for the settlement of lands at Borbala ?

(g) For how many years the issue is pending before the Land Settlement Advisory Board ?

(h) Within what time settlement of these lands will be given ?

(i) Why the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta is postponing this issue ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

723. (a)—In 1944.

(b) (i)—Persons where lands were requisitioned for the Sorbhog aerodrome.

(ii)—Persons whose lands have been eroded by the river.

(iii)—And also the old occupiers whose cases were found deserving.

(c)—Yes. Annual pattas were issued.

(d)—Yes, the annual pattas of these persons were cancelled in pursuance of an order of the Revenue Tribunal who held that the dereservation of the area and the subsequent settlement were irregular.

(e)—No.

(f)—The Dereservation proceedings have been regularised and the Subdivisional Officer has been asked to prepare a list of deserving allottees in consultation with the Land Settlement Advisory Committee. Special consideration will be given to the cases of the people from Sapana village whose lands were taken over for construction of Sorbhog aerodrome during war.

(g)—Nearly four years.

(h)—Settlement will be completed very soon. In fact it is now pending only for discussion in the Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(i)—Subdivisional Officer purpose to consult the Land Settlement Advisory Committee. He is being asked to put up the matter in the next meeting of the Committee and finalise the matter.

**Regarding the memorandum to improve Moranhat, etc.,
Local Board and Panchayat roads, Mahmora**

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

724. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware of the Memorandum lately submitted by Moran Development Committee in regard to the following ?

(i) taking over Local Board and Panchayat roads from Moranhat to Banamalie Tea Estate

connecting Assam Trunk Road and Mahmora Public Works Department road respectively by Government for the economic development of the rural people of Mahmora Mauza, and

- (ii) taking over the remaining portion of Doba Ali from Sepon Suffry Road to Mahmora Road at Banamalie Tea Estate now maintained by the Local Board and Panchayat ?
- (b) If so, what action has been taken in this behalf ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that there is no Public Works Department road within the jurisdiction of Paschim Mahmora Rural Panchayat with a population of more than 16 thousand ?
- (d) If so, whether Government propose to take over the aforesaid Local Board and Panchayat roads by the Public Works Department for the benefit of the masses ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing)] replied:

724. (a) (i) & (ii)—No such representations have been received by the Government.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Some lengths of certain Public Works Department roads pass through the jurisdiction of Pashim Mahmora Rural Panchayat as given below.

(i)—About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Sepon-Suffry Road (portion of 10th and 11th mile).

(ii)—1st mile of Mahmora Ali.

(d)—There is no such proposal at present.

Stall of P. W. D. (R. and B.) Wings

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

725. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing) be pleased to state—

- (a) The total number of employees of the Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing) who have been made permanent as per Government decision to make the employees serving for 5 years or more permanent (to be shown category-wise).
- (b) Why a large number of employees with more than 5 years of services are still kept unconfirmed ?
- (c) Whether Government received representations from such employees from time to time ?
- (d) If so, why Government is not taking any action on such representations ?
- (e) Whether Government proposes to take up the matter seriously and confirm the employees with 5 years of service without further delay ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. and B. Wing)] replied :

725. (a)—Altogether 2,094 posts have been made permanent. But so far a total number of 425 employees have been confirmed as shown below :

CATEGORY-WISE

1. Additional Chief Engineer and Secretary...	1
2. Superintending Engineers	5
3. Executive Engineers... ..	6
4. Road Moharrirs.	138
5. Tracers	15
6. Grade IV Staff	99

7. Head Assistants	...	...	...	...	15
8. Upper Division Assistants	...	...	...	...	45
9. Lower Division Assistants	...	...	...	...	67
10. Stenographers	...	...	...	...	5
11. Typists	...	...	...	...	6
12. Divisional Mechanic	...	...	...	...	1
13. Malis, Sweepers under Raj-Bhavan Garden and Grounds.					22

(b)—The service records are under scrutiny in the Accountant General, Assam's Office and in the Finance Department as regards fixation of pay which is necessary before the persons are brought to permanent cadre. Necessary action is being taken to expedite the matter.

(c)—Yes.

(d) & (e)—Scrutiny of such huge number of records by Accountant General's Office and Finance Department involves considerable time and necessary action has been taken to request them to expedite the matter.

Regarding Relief and Rehabilitation of the inhabitants of Bagli village of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and asking about the allotment of 100 maunds of rice for these people

Shri HENRY COTTON [Nongstoin (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

726. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) If it is a fact that Bagli village on the Nongstoin border area of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills has been transferred to Pakistan?

(b) If so, whether Government are aware that the inhabitants of the village are Khasis and Garos?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the people of the village made representation to the Deputy Commissioner, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills for their relief and rehabilitation?

- (d) If so, what measures have been taken for their relief and rehabilitation ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that immediately after the recent firing by Pakistan, 100 maunds of rice was sent for distribution to the people of this village ?
- (f) If so, whether all the rice meant for distribution was distributed to the people of the village ?
- (g) If not, how many maunds were distributed and how the balance was disposed of ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

726. (a)—No

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No. The Subdivisional Officer, Sadar, Shillong visited the village on 21st and 22nd November 1958 and recommended grant of gratuitous relief.

(d)—In accordance with the Subdivisional Officer's report 68 maunds of rations, *i. e.*, rice, dal, mustard oil and salt were despatched there for distribution to the people as gratuitous relief.

(e)—The quantity of rice was 50 maunds.

(f)—The quantity of rice reached Nongkulang village which is 7 miles from Bagli, in two instalments on 11th and 15th December 1958. The second instalment could not be distributed at Bagli as the people for whom the rations were intended, refused to lift their quotas unless Rs.10 per maund was also paid to them as portorage in addition to free ration.

(g)—The quantity distributed was 23 maunds, 2 seers of rice, 6 maunds, 9 seers of dal, 1 maund, 13 seers of mustard oil and 36½ seers of salt. The balance was kept in the zima of U Rohin Singh, a Government rice dealer for Nongkulang Centre.

Regarding V.G. Reserves and P. G. Reserves in Sibsagar

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

727. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) What is the number of proposals recommended by the Land Settlement Authority Committee, Sibsagar for throwing open V. G. Reserves and P. G. Reserves in Sibsagar since January, 1957 ?

(b) Whether any amount of land dereserved was distributed to deserving cultivators since January, 1957 ?

(c) If the answer is in the affirmative, what area of land in terms of bighas were distributed and the number of allottees ?

(d) If not, why not ?

728. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) The area of land in terms of bighas of V. G. Reserves and P. G. Reserves that were encroached in the Sibsagar Subdivision during 1958-59 ?

(b) What is the total amount of money collected by selling standing crops on the encroached land ?

(c) How far the authorities came out successful in evicting the encroachers in Sibsagar ?

(d) Whether all the encroachers were evicted in due time, *i. e.*, before harvest ?

(e) If not, why not ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

727. and 728.—Information has been called for.

Area of Forest in the State and regarding growing of grass in plantation area

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked:

729. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forests be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the acreage of Forests in both Hills and Plains in the State ?
- (b) Whether the Minister is aware that the cattle population in Assam is ill-fed due to want of sufficient fodder ?
- (c) If so, whether it is possible to grow grass in the plantation areas under Forests along with plantations ?
- (d) Whether Government will be pleased to consider such scheme to supplement fodder for the cattle in the deficit areas ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Forests) replied:

729. (a)—In Hills—10,78,553 acres.

In Plains—29,96,349 acres.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No. Grazing in plantation areas will damage the plants.

(d)—Government have already sanctioned a scheme, viz., "Scheme for fodder cultivation under the Veterinary Department to improve the fodder scarcity in the State and works under this Scheme are already in progress. Also cultivation of fodder grasses proposed in V. G. Reserves through Government Departments, Panchayats as well as non-official bodies.

Amount allotted to Shanker Mission, Khoirabari and Barangajuli from Development Fund

Shri PAKHIRAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

730. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a substantial amount was allotted from Development Fund for Shanker Mission ; Khoirabari and Barangajuli ?
- (b) If so, what amount was allotted during the years 1953-54, 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 ?
- (c) Whether the money has been utilised for the purpose for which it was given ?
- (d) If not, whether Government propose to make a thorough enquiry about it ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister, Rural Development Department) replied:

730. (a) to (d)—Information has been called for.

Total amount of money drawn by Development Officer, Dibrugarh as T. A. and night halts outside the H. Q.

Shri DEVENRDA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

731. Will the Minister-in-charge of Rural Development be pleased to state—

- (a) The total amount of money drawn by the Development officer, Dibrugarh as Travelling allowance year by year since 1953 till to-date ?
- (b) What is the number of night halts made by this Development officer outside his Headquarters in the Dibrugarh Subdivision, year by year, since 1953 till to-date ?

- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Rural Development officers are required to spend nights now and then in villages to understand the problems of the villagers and to guide them in proper line ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge, Rural Development Department) replied :

731. (a) to (c)—Information has been called for.

Number of Hat Bazar and Ghat in Barpeta Subdivision

Dr. SHRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

732. Will the Minister-in-charge of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) Who is the Chairman of Barpeta Local Board ?
- (b) What is the total number of Hat Bazars and Ghats in Barpeta Subdivision ?
- (c) What are the bid amounts of Hat Bazars and Ghats during 1957-58 and 1958-59 ? (Answer is to be given showing the amount of bid money settled with each Hat Bazar and each Ghat during 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?)
- (d) Whether remissions were given in the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 to the lessees of Hat Bazar and Ghats ?
- (e) If so, what amount of remission was given for each Hat Bazar and each Ghat in each of these two years ?
- (f) What was the actual amount of money realised, after granting remission to the lessees against each Hat Bazars and Ghats ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that the Chairman, Barpeta Local Board, settled the Hat Bazars and Ghats with the person offering lower bid ?
- (h) If so, why ?
- (i) Whether Government propose to make an enquiry into these actions of the Chairman and take appropriate steps ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L.S.-G.) replied:

732. (a)—**Shri A. Rahman.**

(b) to (i)—Information has been called for.

Number of Roads constructed by B. M. Board in Metuakuchi

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked:

733. Will the Minister-in-charge of L. S.-G. be pleased to state how many roads have been constructed in Metuakuchi town extension blocks (Barpeta Subdivision) by the Barpeta Municipal Board and what is the amount of Government aid given to the Municipality for this purpose?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L. S.-G.) replied:

733.—Information has been called for from the Chairman, Municipal Board, Barpeta.

Regarding occupation of house of Shri M. P. Karon of Nongpoh by Malaria Department

Siem U JOR MANIK [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

734. Will the Minister-in-charge of Health be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the holdings of one M. P. Karon in Nongpoh, has been occupied by the Malaria Department?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the particular holder is not getting the rate of rent sanctioned by the Department concerned?

(c) If so, why?

(d) Whether it is a fact that the original proposal was that only one of his houses was to be occupied?

(e) Whether it is a fact that all the out-houses also standing in the holding of the particular persons were subsequently occupied by the Malaria Staff?

(f) Whether Government will be pleased to cause an enquiry made into the matter, and have a fair rate of rent assessed for the holding ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied :

734. (a)—Yes.

(b) & (c)—Actuals payee's receipts show he is getting Rs.80 per mensem.

(d)—Yes. Hiring of a house consisting of 6 rooms at a rental of Rs.80 per mensem as fixed by the local Sub-Deputy Collector has been sanctioned.

(e)—No information. Enquiry is being made.

(f)—If after enquiry it is found that additional houses besides those sanctioned are now being occupied, the case for enhancement of the rate of rent will be considered.

Asking for information of the Names of Allottees of the Dalgaon Town Land since 1950 onward and other Applicants, and any Settlement proposed to be expedited

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked:

735. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the file concerning Dalgaon town land is missing from the Sub-Deputy Collector's office, Mangaldai ?

(b) If not, who are the allottees of the Dalgaon town land since 1950 onward (names of allottees with area of land settled to be given) ?

(c) Whether a large number of applicants have been occupying the said town land since long ?

(d) If so, whether they have been given settlement ?

(e) If not, why not ?

(f) Whether Government propose to expedite the settlement with the deserving applicants ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

735.—Information has been called for from the local officer.

Construction of Timber Bridge over the River Sampora

Shri MOHANANDA BORAH (North Lakhimpur) asked :

736. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that a big timber bridge over the river Sampora in Ghilamara Subdivision was constructed two years back at a cost of half lakh ?

(b) Whether Government have received any report that this bridge sank down just after final bills were paid to the contractors ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that on dismantling the sunk portion of the bridge it was found that every post was 11 feet shorter than the specification ?

(d) If so, what steps the Government is taking against the officers and contractors who are responsible for such a heavy loss of public money ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing)] replied :

736. (a)—Yes, construction of the bridge was completed in March, 1958 at a cost of Rs.47,000.

(b)—No. the bridge sank before payment of the final bill.

(c)—During the process of rectification all the six piles of the sunken portion of the bridge were found to be driven to a shorter length than required.

(d)—The matter is under enquiry. As regards the final bill of the contractors, the same has been held up and the cost of rectification including the Departmental charges is being realised from his bill.

Regarding Decree in the Title No.30 of 1956

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

737. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that decree in the Title Suit No. 30 of 1956 (Chairman, Dibrugarh Local Board Vs. Doctor Gokul Baruah) was given on 21st March 1957 and was signed by the Munsiff, Dibrugarh on 13th August 1957 ?
- (b) Whether the Government is aware that the application for copy of this decree was made by Dibrugarh Local Board on 28th February 1958 but copy was ready on 23rd December 1958 in Dibrugarh Court and was given delivery on 6th January 1959 ?
- (c) If so, why did it take about 5 months to sign the decree as referred to in (a) above as an instance ?
- (d) Why did it take about 10 (ten) months in making the copy at Dibrugarh Court ?
- (e) Why delivery of the copy was also delayed for about 15 days ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that unusual delay is caused in supplying copies of records at Dibrugarh Court ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Law)
replied :

737. (a) to (f)—Information are being collected.

**Complaints to the Superintendent, State Transport,
Dibrugarh for various occasion**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

738. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that complaints were made to the Station Superintendent, State Transport, Dibrugarh on several occasions last year that wayside passengers were not picked up and vehicles were allowed to run even without full load of passengers?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that the Superintendent, did not have time to attend to these complaints and did not reply to the complainant who happens to be the questioner?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that copies of some of the complaints were sent to the Minister-in-charge of Transport?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that Government could not communicate the questioner the result of enquiry although it was assured *vide* letter No. STHT/DS/10/37248, dated 26th December, 1958 issued by the Assistant Secretary, S. R. T. Board, Assam, Shillong?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that Government have given unusual power to Station Superintendent, Dibrugarh who need not hear the complaints from the public?
- (f) If not, what action Government propose to take against the Superintendent, for not replying to the questioner?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied:

738. (a)—Yes. State buses are permitted to pick up wayside passengers only from authorised stoppages as they have to run according to a time-table.

(b)—The Station Superintendent received such complaint from the hon. Member himself and submitted his report to the Divisional Superintendent after enquiry into the complaint.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—The question of picking up passengers from wayside places other than authorised stoppages involves a matter of policy and is being placed before the State Road Transport Board. The decision of the Board will be communicated to the hon. Member.

(e)—No.

(f)—Kindly see radly to the questions 114 (b) and (d) above.

Regarding a grazing reserve in Charaibahi Katoni Mouzas

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked:

739. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the poor cultivators of Charaibahi and Katoni Mouzas are facing great difficulty in keeping bullocks and to maintain them for want of suitable and well maintained grazing reserves?

(b) Whether Govt. is aware that the main cause of cattle mortality of these mouzas is starvation of the cattle?

(c) Whether Government is aware that cattle are also frequently impounded by surrounding tea garden authorities penalising the poor villagers?

(d) Whether Government propose to maintain one grazing reserve for each mouza which will help the poor agriculturists in increasing food production?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

739. (a) to (d)—Information have been called for.

Number of Tribal students reading in different educational institutes in the State

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS [Patachar Kuchi (Reserved for Sheduled Tribes)] asked :

740. Will the Minister, Tribal Areas Department be pleased to enquire and state—

(a) How many Plains Tribal students are reading in the different School including in the Medical Schools and Technical Schools in the State of Assam during the year 1958-59 ?

(b) How many Plains Tribal students are reading in the different colleges including the Medical College and other Technical Colleges in the State of Assam during the year 1958-59 ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge for T.A.D.) replied :

740. (a)—Information regarding the number of Plains Tribal students reading in the different Schools and Technical Schools in the State of Assam during the year 1958-59 are being collected.

As regards Medical Schools, the number of Plains Tribal students reading in the Pharmacists' Training Class is 45 and these are all stipendaries.

(b)—The number of Plains Tribal students reading in the different colleges in the State of Assam is 628 and in the Medical Colleges in 20 for the year 1958-59.

Information regarding the number of Plains Tribal students in the Technical Colleges is being collected.

Regarding grants for Mangaldai Venture College in 1955 and 1956 from Tribal grant

Shri. PAKHI RAI DEKA [Panery (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

741. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a grant of Rs.10,000 was sanctioned during 1955 and Rs.10,000 in 1956 for Mangaldai Venture College for Tribal grant ?
- (b) Whether the grant was allotted for Tribal hostel ?
- (c) If not, for what purpose the grant was allotted ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that some of the students could not get seat in the said college hostel ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the money has not been spent for the hostel building ?
- (f) If so, whether Government propose to enquire into the matter and realise the amount from the authorities concerned ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON SANGMA (Minister, Transport for Minister, Education) replied:

741. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Information being collected.

(e)—Information being collected.

(f)—Matter will be examined on receipt of the information.

Regarding about disease of Cattle and its Prevention at Barchahaki area, Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

742. Will the Minister, Veterinary be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that Cattle diseases is taking away lives of cattle still in Barchahaki area, Khaleighugura Mouzas, Sibsagar Sub-division ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that two buffaloes belonging to Sree Dina Baruah and Sree Jadar Baruah, died in February 1959, though the said cattle were injected in the months of August and September, 1958 ?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to make an enquiry and adopt measures so that the disease cannot spread further ?

Mr. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Veterinary) replied :

742. (a) & (b)—Information is being collected and will be furnished when received.

(c)—Every precaution is being taken to stop the spreading of the disease.

Regardig Densal P.G.R. in Gobha Mauza, Nowgong

Shri DHIRSINGH DEURI [Lahari ghat (Reservrd for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

743. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government has received any resolution passed in a public meeting held on 1st January, 1959, regarding Densal P.G.R. in Gobha mauza in the district of Nowgong ?

If so, whether any action was taken on it ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Said Reserve was encroached upon by some Refugee who was evicted by the Authority ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the said Reserve is again encroached upon ?

(d) If so, whether the encroacher has been evicted ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister Revenue) replied:

743. (a) to (d)—Information have been called for.

**Number of plying buses between Sorbhog and Barpeta
and regarding meeting of Regional Transport
Authority held in 1958**

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

744. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) How many buses are plying between Sorbhog and Barpeta ?
- (b) When the last meeting of the Regional Transport Authority was held in 1958 ?
- (c) Whether the petition of one Shri Golak Chandra Das, who is a local man of Sorbhog was not submitted in the meeting along with other petitions ?
- (d) If so, what is the reason ?
- (e) Whether proceedings of that meeting will be cancelled ?
- (f) Who is responsible for this high-handedness ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON SANGMA (Transport Minister) replied:

744. (a)—Four.

1958. (b)—8th to 10th October, 1958 and on 18th October,

(c)—The information is being collected.

(d)—Does not arise in view of reply to question (c) above.

(e)—There is no such provision. The aggrieved party may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Authority prescribed in Rule 89 of the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.

(f)—The information is being collected.

**Regarding payment of repairing Bridges and Culverts
within Panchayat Areas**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

745. Will the Minister, Rural Development, be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government, *vide* letter No.D.P.40/55/514, dated Shillong, the 18th December, 1956, informed the President of the Rural Panchayat to the effect that the Government would pay 75 per cent of the cost of repairing bridges and culverts within panchayat areas ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that by the same letter, the Government asked the Panchayat to submit particulars of expenditure in a single lot to the Government with necessary certificates to the effect that the repairing works would be completed at an early date and in no case later than 19th January, 1957 ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that accordingly, many Panchayats completed the necessary works and submitted expenditure list with necessary certificates ?

(d) If so, whether Government had paid the promised share of expenditure ?

(e) If not, why not ?

(f) Whether Government will be pleased to pay the amount at the earliest ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Rural Development) replied :

745. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Due to financial difficulties only a sum of Rs.390 per Panchayat could be sanctioned during 1957-58 out of the provision of grants for rural communication within Panchayat areas although it was less than 75 per cent as originally decided.

(e) & (f)—Do not arise.

Issue of Permit for Private Bus

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUAH (Katoni goan)
asked :

746. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether permit for private bus has been issued to persons who are not the real owners of the bus ?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that the permit holders of the private bus are merely shareholders of the real bus owners ?
- (c) If so, why intermediary system of issuing permit for private bus has been maintained ?
- (d) Whether Government will abolish such intermediary system ?
- (e) If not, why not ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that bus permit has been issued in the name of one person for several bus routes ?
- (g) If so, why ?
- (h) Whether Government will stop such practice ?
- (i) If not, why not ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Transport Minister) replied :

746. (a) & (b)—Government have no such information.

(c), (d) & (e)—A permit is not transferable from one person to another under the laws. If detected and proved, the permit is liable to be cancelled under the provision of Section 60 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 read with rule 84 of the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 for violation of the provision of Section 59(1) of the Act.

(f)—Government have no such information. There is no legal bar. It is however, the policy of the Transport authorities now not to grant more than one permit in one family.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h) & (i)—Please refer to reply to Question (f).

Regarding the enquiry Report of Shri A. Das, Magistrate, into the Allegation of Injustice done to the Refugees of Sonabee, and measures taken by the Government in this connection

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Pathar Kandi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

747. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he has received a copy of the report of Sri Amarendra Das, Magistrate, who enquired into the allegation of injustice and harrassment done to the refugees of Sonabeel by the Khazansibari Estate authorities in conjunction with the Relief and Rehabilitation Officer's Office at Karimganj ?
- (b) If so, what measures Government have taken or propose to take to administer justice to the afflicted persons ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware of that this allegation was made by the refugees to Shri M. C. Khanna, Union Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation, during his visit to Nagendranagar Colony of Sonabeel, district Cachar and that on that very occasion Shri Amarendra Das was deputed for the said enquiry?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied :

747. (a)—Yes. A report regarding the alleged harrasment of the displaced persons in the Sonabeel area submitted by Shri Amarendra Das, E.A.C., was received by Government on 29th December, 1958.

(b)—The relationship between the displaced tenants and the Zamindars in the privately sponsored colonies of Cachar is under examination at present.

(c)—Government have no information that the Union Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation had ever visited the Nagendranagar Colony of Sonabeel in the District of Cachar.

Regarding the Extension Works of Metuakuchi Town

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Ram pur) asked :

748. Will the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Metuakuchi Town extension in Barpeta Subdivision is not at all developed although settlements were given about 12 years back, due to the fact that no road had yet been constructed there, beyond a few yards upto the new residence of the Chairman, School Board ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Primary School Board, Barpeta has been given about double the area of land allotted to others ?

(c) If so, whether Government will reduce his area to make it at par with other allottees ?

(d) The area allotted to the Chairman of the School Board at Barpeta and area in his actual possession ?

Whether it is a fact that the said gentleman has been allowed to cut and remove earth from inside the said block whereas no other person is allowed to do so ?

- (f) If so, why ?
- (g) Whether in any other block in Barpeta Town Extension Scheme land is reserved for canals ?
- (h) How much land is reserved in Town extension blocks of Metuakuchi for public purposes ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

748. (a) to (h)—Information has been called for.

Demanding inquiry against misappropriation of public money which sanctioned for irrigation projects at Mohang Dijowa

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-west) asked :

749. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that one Shri Phuleswar Kachari and Shri Prafulla Kachari of Village Mohang Dijowa of Mauza Barjan under Police Station Bakajan in the District of United Mikir and North Cachar Hills sent telegram and public petition by Registered Acknowledgment due on 3rd December 1958 demanding inquiry against misappropriation of public money which were sanctioned for irrigation projects at Village Mohang Dijowa ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the District Agricultural office of the Mikir Hills District went on a spot inquiry of the matter on 12th December 1958, and found some of the Irrigation Projects incomplete and work of some not started at all but payment of bills for completion of works had already been made ?
- (c) If so, why the payment of bill without works being completed were made ?
- (d) Whether works of the projects were done by some contractors ?
- (e) If so, who are they ?

(f) Whether any tender was called for ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied :

749. (a) to (f)—Information is being collected .

Regarding Allotment of different varieties of fertilisers to the State by India for agriculturists during last 3 years at subsidised rates

U. JORMANIK SYIEM [Nongpoh (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked :

750. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the quantities of neat fertilisers of different varieties allotted by the Government of India to the State of Assam at subsidised rates for agriculturists during the last 3 years ?
- (b) How much of these fertilisers were allotted by the Assam Government to each district during the last three years ?
- (c) What is the agricultural population of each district according to the Census of 1951 ?
- (d) Whether the officers of the Agriculture Department, have taught the cultivators judicious use of these fertiliser ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied :

750. (a)—The fertilisers allotted by Government of India to Assam from the central pool, are mainly the different Nitrogenous fertilizers where however, no subsidy is borne either by the Centre or by the State Government.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—The Agricultural population of the State District-wise is shown below :—

Plains Division	...	...	...	55,81,584
1. Cachar	...	...	...	6,68,474
2. Goalpara	...	...	...	9,43,682
3. Kamrup	...	...	...	11,97,548
4. Darrang	...	...	...	6,44,733
5. Nowgong	...	...	...	7,57,416
6. Sibsagar	...	...	...	7,81,421
7. Lakhimpur	...	...	...	5,88,310
Hills Division	...	...	...	10,51,408
8. United Khasi and Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	2,67,889
9. Mizo Hills	...	...	...	1,82,449
10. Garo Hills	...	...	...	2,30,073
11. United Mikir and North Cachar Hills	...	...	...	1,33,761

(d)—Cultivators are taught the judicious application of all fertilisers through field demonstrations posters, bulletins and village Gram Sahayak Training Camps.

Regarding Agricultural Farm and Agricultural Seed Farm of the State

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked:

751. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) How many model Agricultural Farms and Agricultural Seed Farms are established in our State up till now ?

(b) What has been the average expenditure per year of each of these Farms including pay of Officers posted there and other establishment costs in the course of the last three years ?

- (c) What is the average income per year of each Model Agricultural Farm and of Agricultural Seed Farm and what is the quantity of Seed produced in each of these Farms during the last three years ?
- (d) In case any of these Farms were running at a loss, what are the reasons for loss in case of each Farm ?
- (e) Who is responsible for such losses in Government Farms and what action has been taken to overcome such losses in Model and Seed Farms ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied :

751. (a)—Till now we have established 107 Seed Farms in the State. Also there are 10 Demonstration Farms in addition.

(b)—Rs. 9,000 for Seed Farms.

Rs. 5,000 for Demonstration Farms.

(c)—About Rs. 5,000 for Seed Farms.

About Rs. 4,000 for Demonstration Farms.

Quantity of Seeds produced is about 400 maunds.

(d)—The reason for the loss wherever it is happening is due to the fact that all these are Experimental-cum-Seed Farms. Every attempt is however, being made to make the Farms self-supporting.

(e)—Does not arise. Steps have been taken to make the Farms self-supporting. An inquiry Committee has also been appointed to advise on it.

Regarding pensions and houses of the Bonsbary Tea Estate

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

752. Will the Minister-in-charge of Labour be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the labourers of Bonsbury Tea Estate, Kamrup have been provided with good houses ?

- (b) If not, why not ?
- (c) If not, whether Government will inquire them ?
- (d) Whether there are Creche houses in that Tea Estate ?
- (e) Whether the garden labourers in Assam get pensions ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware or received reports to the effect that the present Manager maltreated Sri Tajuddin Ahmed, M. L. A., in the said garden ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that the School in the garden in the most deflorate condition ?
- (h) If not, whether Government will enquire about it ?
- (i) Whether there is a labour welfare for the garden ?
- (j) If so, where does he stay ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Labour) replied :

752. (a) to (j)—The matter is being enquired into.

Regarding Motor Vehicles Taxes during 1957-58, 1958-59 from Garo Hills, Mizo Hills, etc.

Shri BHUBAN CHANDRA PRODHANI (Golakganj) asked :

753. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) During the years 1957-58, 1958-59 from the districts of Garo Hills, Mizo Hills and United Mikir and North Cachar Hills on account of Motor Vehicles Taxes ?
- (b) What step has been taken by Government to check evasion of Motor Vehicles taxes from the autonomous districts ?
- (c) What are the principles of allocation of shares of Motor Vehicles revenue between the general and the Autonomous districts ?

- (d) Whether Government propose to appoint either Assistant District Transport Officers or District Transport Officers for the above Districts for smooth running of the M. V. works there ?
- (e) If the replies to questions (d) and (e) above be in the negative, whether Government will reconsider the matter in view of the fact that Police officers there are not in a position to devote their full attention to the M. V. Works in addition to their normal duties ?
- (f) Whether the Motor Vehicles Offices at Tura Aijal and Diphu were ever audited by the auditors of the Local Examiner ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Transport Minister) replied :

753. (a)—The receipt under 'XII-Taxes on vehicles in Garo Hills, Mizo Districts and Mikir and North Cachar Hills during the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 upto January 1959 were as under :—

District	Years	
	1957-58	Years 1958-59 upto 31st January 1959
	Rs.	Rs.
Garo Hills	42,095	48,898
Mizo District	22,820	32,523
United Mikir and North Cachar Hills.	13,209	12,673

(b)—The Motor Vehicles Administration of autonomous Sixth Schedule, Part A Areas excepting United Khasi and Jaintia Hills has very recently come over to Transport Department. The position is being watched closely and appropriate action will be taken to check evasion.

(c)—The ratio is 1 : 2 between general and the Sixth Schedule Area.

(d) & (e)—The matter is receiving consideration.

(f) Tura and Aijal Offices were audited.

**Bus line permit of a Society of Ex-Servicemen on
Rupahi-Lowkhowa-Silghat line**

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri)
asked :

754. Will the Minister-in-charge of Transport be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a society of Ex-Service Men of Nowgong District applied for a Bus permit to the Regional Transport Authority on Rupahi-Lowkhowa-Silghat line, on 14th February 1958, but this prayer is not receiving consideration in the hands of the Government (Gazetted No. 681 tender).
- (b) Whether it is a fact that quite competent persons such a drivers-motor mechanics, etc., are there amongst the Society of Ex-Servicemen to run and conduct a bus ?
- (c) Whether Government will be pleased to consider this prayer at an early date ?

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister, Transport) replied :

754. (a)—Yes. The Transport Authorities are quasi-judicial bodies set up under Section 44 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and Government cannot interfere with their decision. The remedy prescribed is an appeal to the Appellate Authority as envisaged in Rule 89 of the Assam Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.

(b)—Government have no information.

(c)—Please refer to reply to question No. 97(a) above.

Regarding P. W. D., S. D. O's Office building at Pathsala

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked :

755. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the work site for Pathsala P. W. D. Subdivisional Officer's Office building at Pathsala acquired ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) If not why the contractors were allowed to start work and stop the same again and again causing great loss to the contractors ?

(d) Whether Government propose to enquire into the matter ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D., (Roads & Buildings)] replied :

755. (a)—No. Land acquisition proceeding is in progress.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—The site was selected on a private land, as no suitable Government land was available. On written consent of the Pattaholders of the land, work order was issued to the contractor in anticipation of advance possession to be given by the Local authorities. But as the Revenue authorities did not agree to give advance possession before formally acquiring the land, the work had to be temporarily postponed.

(d)—Yes.

Construction of line House

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-west) asked :

756. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R.&B.) be pleased to state—

(a) What was the purpose to construct a line of houses just on the western-side of the office building of the S. D. O. (P. W. D.), Nalbari, leading the line towards the Balikoria Road under North Kamrup Division ?

(b) Whether all the houses constructed, have been used ?

(c) If so, how long it took from the day of completion to the day of use ?

(d) Whether any expenditure had to be incurred for repairing before use ?

(e) If so, why ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (Roads & Buildings Wing)] replied :

756. (a)—The quarters so constructed are meant for the accommodation of the Office staff of the Executive Engineer, Nalbari.

(b)—Yes. All are under occupation.

(c)—The quarters are still incomplete. The office staff is occupying the quarters due to dire necessity of accommodation.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

Proposal to construct Kakopathar-Maithong Road, Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

757. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (Roads & Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) To what extent there is proposal to construct a P. W. D. Road beyond Maithong of Kakopathar-Maithong Road in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?

(b) When the commencement of the work of this proposed road may be expected ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied :

757. (a)—About 3.5 miles.

(b)—Work on the length of 3.5 miles as stated at (a) above has already been started. This length forms a part of the length of 10 miles of Kakopathar-Namsoi Road taken up from the Kakopathar end.

Tender regarding annual repair works of Barpeta Civil Hospital

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

758. Will the Minister-in-charge of P. W. D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

(a) What was the total number of tender received for annual repair works of Barpeta Civil Hospital ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that tenders with lower bids were not accepted and the works were allotted to tenders with higher bids ?

(c) Who was the Contractor to whom works were allotted ?

(d) Whether he has any experience of repairing work of buildings ?

(e) On what basis works were allotted ?

(f) Whether it is a fact that tenders of old experienced contractor were not considered ?

(g) Who were the tenderers who submitted tenders for these repair works ?

(h) Whether all the contractors were allotted works else where ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W.D. (R. & B.)] replied:

758. (a) to (h)—Information has been called for.

Bridge over the Beki river

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

759. Will the Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B.), be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question No.75 asked by Shri Ghanshyam Talukdar, M.L.A., in the last August September Session 1958 and state—

(a) Whether Government is aware of the necessity of a bridge over the Beki river ?

(b) If so, whether proposal for construction of a bridge across the Beki river was put before the last meeting of the Assam Road Communication Board and what is the result ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, P. W. D. (R. & B. Wing)] replied:

759. (a)—Yes, the necessity of a bridge across such a major river on any important State Highway is always there.

(b)—Yes, the proposal was placed before the last meeting of the Assam Road Communication Board held on 11th October, 1958 the proceedings of which were sent to all M.L.As.

Audit of the Emporiums and Khadi Bhandars of Assam

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUAH (Katonigaori) asked:

760. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any audit has been made so far of the Emporiums and Khadi Bhandars of Assam ?

(b) If not, whether Government propose to audit the accounts of these Institutions ?

Shri MAHENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Khadi & Village Industries) replied:

760. (a)—Yes. Accounts of the Emporia are audited by the Examiner of Local Accounts, Assam and test audited by the Accountant General, Assam. Audit of all the five Khadi Bhandars has been carried out.

(b)—In view of reply (a) above, this does not arise.

Regarding Steel processing Import Industrial quota

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhaog) asked:

761. Will the Minister-in-charge of Industries be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Assam Industrial Corporation was given steel processing Import Industrial quota ?

(b) If so, when ?

(c) What quota was given to the corporation ?

(d) What happened to the said quota ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister of Industries) replied:

761. (a)—Yes. A Steel Processing Industries quota was issued to this firm.

(b)—12th December, 1958.

(c)—Two tons of Rods.

(d)—The quota has not yet been received.

Settlement of Kharupatia Town Land

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked :

762. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that a sub-committee had been formed during 1958 by the Land Settlement Advisory Board, Mangaldai to prepare a list of the deserving persons for the settlement of Kharupatia town land ?

(b) If so, whether the said town land has yet been settled ?

(c) If not, why ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

762. (a)—Yes.

(b)—No. Government dropped the proposal for dere-servation of the Khateswar V. G. G., which is contiguous to the Kharupatia town, for settlement with private individuals and decided to keep the land reserved to meet the demand of the growing Kharupatia town for public purposes. But Government are now considering the question of dereservation of a portion of the Khateswar V. G. G., for settlement with individuals.

(c)—Does not arise in view of the reply to question (b).

Regarding Public Works Department's unfit bridges for traffic in the Barpeta-Baghbar Road

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

763. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the total number of bridges in the Barpeta-Baghbar Road which are not yet fit for traffic for the last five years ?
- (b) Whether any tender was called for, for a cold weather bridge at the 3rd mile of the same road ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that without calling any tender, work for that cold weather bridge had been allotted to same contractor on verbal order of the authority concerned ?
- (d) What is the total value of contract work given and what is the rate per rft. ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the wheel of the car of the Additional Chief Engineer was damaged out that bridge while he lately passed over that bridge ?
- (f) Whether there was any emergency to construct the bridge without calling for tender ?
- (g) If so, what was any emergency to take this step ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied :

763. (a)—5 numbers of bridges on Barpeta-Baghbar Road are not fit for traffic. Besides approaches to 6 other bridges being damaged, they are also not trafficable.

(b)—Tender was not called for.

(c)—Yes, the work was allotted without calling for tender. The expression "same contractor" is not understood.

(d)—Total value of the contract work is Rs.1,190 rate being Rs.8.50 per running foot.

(e)—No, the front wheels of the staff vehicles sunk down while passing over the bamboo bridge.

(f) & (g)—Opening of the road to wheel traffic was urgently necessary due to public pressure and also in connection with some departmental works.

Regarding Fertilizers to Agriculturists of Cachar District, etc.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

764. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) The amount of fertilizers imported for Cachar District for Agriculture purposes ?
- (b) The amount of fertilizer distributed to the cultivators through the District Agricultural Officer, Cachar ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the balance is distributed through a private dealer ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Fertilizers distributed by the said District Agricultural Officer is included in his consolidated progress report ?
- (e) Whether the individual Dealer of Fertilizer in Cachar maintains record of distribution showing names and addresses of users ?
- (f) Whether the District Agricultural Officer, Cachar collect these informations of distribution of Fertilizers and transmit to his subordinate Officers for scientific guidance and follow up as their indiscriminate use may be brought with dangerous results ?
- (g) Whether Government is aware that the price of the supply of Sindri Fertilizers to industries such as Tea is higher and suspicion arose in certain quarters that fertilizers for cultivators were getting channel to Tea Industries ?
- (h) Whether superior officers of the Agricultural Department checked the position and submitted report to the Government ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied:

764. (a)—One thousand three hundred and seventy tons of Ammonium Sulphate were imported for the Cachar District for Agricultural purposes, during the period from 1st October 1957 to 30th November, 1958.

(b) & (c)—The fertilizers are distributed by the Agent appointed by the Government under the supervision of the District Agricultural Officer. A total quantity of 1,232 tons of Ammonium Sulphate were distributed by the outgoing Agent during their term of agency.

(d)—The District Agricultural Officer includes in his progress report such quantity of Ammonium Sulphate as he takes from the Agent for the purpose of converting the same into Mixed Fertilizers in combination with phosphatic fertilizers for distribution to cultivators.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—As a matter of fact the Agricultural Staff as well as the C. P. Staff (Gram Sevak) educate the cultivators in the judicious application of fertilizers through demonstrations, pamphlets and Village Leaders (Gram Sahayaks) training camps.

(g)—Government is aware of the higher price of the Tea quota of Ammonium Sulphate. Regarding diversion to Tea, Government have not received specific complaints on which investigation is possible.

(h)—As there was no specific complaint from any quarter, the question does not arise. But in the course of the year, checks regarding stocks, sales and credit on sales are instituted.

Regarding Lahoal Primary Trading Co-operative Society in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

765. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Lahoal Primary Trading Co-operative Society in Dibrugarh Subdivision is not functioning since the last 5 years?
- (b) If so, whether this Primary Co-operative Society has yet been liquidated?
- (c) Whether the share moneys have yet been refunded to the share holders?

(d) If not, when will they be refunded ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

765. (a)—Yes.

(b)—The Society is being sent into liquidation.

(c)—The official Liquidator will take over charge of the Society and conduct the liquidation proceedings. The assets of the Society will be realised and then the liabilities of the Society will be discharged according to the Rules and Act.

(d)—When the amounts due to the Society are realised by the Liquidator.

Regarding Lahoal Gaolia Bank, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

766. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) When Lahoal Gaolia Bank in Dibrugarh Subdivision was formed ?

(b) What is the amount of financial assistance that has been given to this Bank during the last 5 years ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

766. (a)—Lahoal Gaolia Bank in Dibrugarh was formed on 4th November 1937.

(b)—No financial assistance has been extended to the Society during the last 5 years.

Regarding Chungichuk Gaolia Bank of Bogdung

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

767. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) When Chungichuk Gaolia Bank in Bogdung Mauza, Dibrugarh Subdivision was formed ?

(b) Since when this Bank stopped transactions ?

(c) Why there has been no transaction in this Bank so long ?

(d) Whether the Co-operative Extension Officer of Panitola N. E. S. Block visited this Bank or discussed with the share-holders or with the local people the ways and means for affective functioning of this Bank ?

(e) What is the distance of Chungichuk from the Headquarters of the N. E. S. Block ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

767. (a)—Chungichuk Gaolia Bank was formed in 20th March 1937.

(b) to (e)—Informations are called for.

Regarding Jerai Gaolia Bank of Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked :

768. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) When Jerai Gaolia Bank in Bogdung Mauza in Dibrugarh Subdivision was formed ?

(b) Since when this Bank has no transactions ?

(c) Whether the Co-operative Extension Officer, Gram Sevaks or any other officials of the Panitola N. E. S. Block informed the existence of such a rural Credit Society to the villagers there during the last ten years ?

(d) Whether any of the officers or Gram Sevaks of Panitola N. E. S. Block ever halted in that village ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

768. (a)—Jerai Gaolia Bank was formed on 9th March, 1937.

(b) to (d)—Informations are called for.

Baruahulla Gaolia Bank in Gharbandi Mauza, Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

769. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) When Baruahulla Gaolia Bank in Gharbandi Mauza, Dibrugarh Subdivision, was formed ?

(b) Since when transactions in this Bank has been stopped ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that none of the officers, organisers or Gram Sevaks of Panitola N. E. S. Block informed the villagers there the existence of such a rural Credit Society although night halts on several occasions were done at that village ?

(d) Whether any of the officials of Co-operative Department ever visited this rural Credit Society during the last 10 (ten) years ?

(e) What action Government propose to take for effective functioning of this Co-operative Society ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Co-operative) replied :

769. (a)—Baruahulla Gaolia Bank in Gharbandi, Dibrugarh Subdivision was formed on 20th March, 1957.

(b) to (e)—Materials are being collected.

Registration of Punimudi Boakata Samabay Samity Gharbandi Mauza, Dibrugarh

Sri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

770. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) When Panimudi Boakata Samabay Samity in Gharbandi Mauza, Dibrugarh Subdivision, was registered ?

(b) Whether any officer of the Co-operative Department visited this Co-operative during the last 5 years ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of Cottage Industry, Dibrugarh, also has no idea of this Samity ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that this Samity is not known to the officials of the Panitola N. E.S. Block which was inaugurated 2 years ago ?

(e) What were the helps that had been rendered to this Society by the Government ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMAH (Deputy Minister, Co-operative) replied :

770. (a)—Panimudi Boakata Samabay Samity was registered on 12th June, 1954.

(b)—Yes. Deputy Handloom Officer, Jorhat and the Extension Officer, Co-operative, Tengakhat, visited the society on 15th September, 1956.

(c)—No information.

(d)—No information.

(e)—Help was given by the Government as follows:—

Share capital loan Rs.375 sanctioned in 1954-55.

Working capital loan Rs.1,000 sanctioned in 1953-54.

Loans and accessories given free of cost.

	1956-57	195
Reed	3 pcs	2
Pirn	2 "	2
Shuttle	2 Nos.	2
Slays	3 "	3
Pulley	—	3
Heald cord Ball	—	2
Heald	—	1

Jerai Boakata Samabay Samity

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked

771. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) When Jerai Boatata Samabay Samity in Boddung Mauza, in Dibrugarh Subdivision was formed and registered ?

(b) What were the help and guidance given by the Government for the growth of this Samity ?

772. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) When Nadua Boakata Samabay Samity in Dibrugarh Subdivision was formed and registration sanctioned by the Department ?

(b) Since when this Society has stopped functioning ?

(c) What steps have so far been taken by the staff of the local N. E. S. Block to revise proper functioning of the Society ?

(d) Whether any other agency is taking interest in proper functioning of this Society ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operative) replied :

771. (a) —Jarai Boa Kata Samabay Samity Limited, was registered on the 5th June, 1956.

(b) —In the absence of any application from the society as well as any report from the local officer, nothing has yet been given under the Handloom Development Schemes.

772. (a) —Nadua Boakata Samabay Samity Limited, was formed on the 23rd March, 1954 and registered on the 19th May, 1954.

(b) —There is no information that the society has stopped functioning.

(c) —Information is being collected.

(d) —No information.

Functioning of Umbrella Co-operative Industries Limited, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

773. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Society be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the Dibrugarh Umbrella Co-operative Industries Limited is functioning at present ?

(b) If not, since when its functions stopped ?

(c) Whether it is proposed to be revised ?

(d) Whether Government propose to liquidate this Industrial Co-operative and arrange to refund the share money ?

- (e) Whether it is a fact that the share-holders applied for refund of share money expressing discontentment due to the non functioning of the Society for such a long period ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operative) replied :

773. (a) to (e)—Materials are being collected.

Regarding half-done Public Works Department Roads of Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

774. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of Public Works Department Roads requiring extension to complete the said roads in the Sibsagar Subdivision with their names ?

- (b) When were the roads in question were constructed ?

- (c) Whether the said half-done roads are going to be completed within the Second Five-Year Plan period ?

- (d) Whether Government have thoroughly scrutinised the list of proposals mentioned in the proceedings of the Road Communication Board ?

- (e) If not, what are the names of the roads left out ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Road and Buildings Wing)) replied :

774. (a) & (b)—A list showing the number, names and dates on which the roads are taken up is given below :—

Serial No.	Name of project	Date on which taken up
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	Nahar Ali	March, 1957.
2	Galeky Ali	February, 1957

Serial No. (1)	Name of project (2)	Date on which taken up (3)
3	Bar Ali	January, 1957.
4	Dubarani Ali	February, 1957.
5	Kerai Ali	February, 1957.
6	Kharikatiya Ali	February, 1955.
7	Timura Ali	February, 1959.
8	Maukata Road... ..	February, 1959.
9	Dhai Ali	1st plan period, (exact date is not available).
10	Mahmari Ali	January, 1955.
11	Sapekhati Pithaguti Road ...	May, 1957.
12	Khaloighugura Doba Ali ...	December, 1954.
13	Haripara Ali	February, 1955.
14	Borphukon Ali	January, 1955.

(c)—The question of taking up the incomplete portions was already discussed in the Sixth Meeting of the Assam Roads Communication Board which was attended to by the hon. Member.

(d)—No list was included in the Proceedings of the meeting.

(e)—Does not arise.

Number of Lower Primary Teacher for Rastrapati Award from Assam

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS[Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]

775. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) What was the basis of selection of the best Lower Primary School teacher, for the Rastrapati Award from Assam?

(b) What was the number of candidates for the Rastrapati Award from the State of Assam?

(c) Whether Shri Sarbeswar Seal, Head Pandit, Tihu Town Junior Basic Girls' School No. 395½ of Gauhati Subdivision was recommended by the Secretary of the Gauhati School Board for the Rastrapati Award ?

(d) If so, whether he was finally selected by the Secretary, State School Board, Assam for the Rastrapati Award ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that the said Shri Sarbeswar Seal topped the list submitted by the Secretary, State School Board, Assam ?

(f) If so, whether his name was sent up to the Central Government for the Rastrapati Award ?

(g) If not, why not ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister for Education) replied:

775. (a)—1. The initial selection was made for each subdivision by a committee formed by the Department. The committee consisted of the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Superintendent of a Basic Training Centre and a Headmaster of a High School. In a few cases in place of the Superintendent of the training Centre a Headmaster of a High School was appointed member.

2. The particulars of the candidates selected by the Subdivisional Committees were furnished to the Director of Public Instruction by the Inspector of Schools in a prescribed form supplied by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. The form was to be filled up by the teacher himself and the immediate superior authority added his remarks to it.

On the basis of these particulars a Committee appointed by Government made a further selection at the State level. The State level committee consisted of Director of Public Instruction, Shri O. K. Das, M. L. A. and Principal, Post Graduate Training College, Jorhat.

(b)—Government forwarded and recommended 3 names from Primary School teachers and 3 from Secondary School teachers, as recommended by the State level committee.

(c) & (d)—Shri Sarbeswar Seal was recommended by the Subdivisional Committee and the State Committee and his name went up to Government of India.

(e)—Only his name was recommended by the Subdivisional Committee, Gauhati.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—Does not arise.

Regarding treatment and admission for patients in the Civil Hospital of Police Bazar, Shillong

Shri HENRY COTTON [Nongstoin (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

776. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical and Public Health be pleased to state—

- (a) What facility exists for the admission to and treatment in the Civil Hospital, Police Bazar, Shillong for the tribal people living in Shillong and its suburbs ?
- (b) How many patients were admitted to and treated in the said hospital from the year 1954 to the end of December, 1958 ?
- (c) Of the total, how many are tribal patients for the corresponding period ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the Civil Hospital at Police Bazar give precedence to the Government Servants and the non-tribal patients in the matter of admission to and treatment in the Hospital ?
- (e) How many Government Hospitals and dispensaries exist in the suburbs of Shillong outside the Shillong Municipality ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the segregation hospital at Mawprem, Shillong, is no longer in use ?
- (g) Whether Government are aware that there is no Government hospital or dispensary in Mawlai Village of Shillong Subdivision ?
- (h) If so, whether Government proposed to convert the segregation hospital into a Civil Hospital with both in-door and out-door facilities for the benefit of the tribal people ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied:

776. (a)—Admission and treatment into the Civil Hospital at Police Bazar, Shillong is not made community-wise. There are 45 beds in the said hospital and patients irrespective of caste, creed and nationality are entitled to admission and treatment in the said hospital.

(b)—Four thousand, three hundred and eighteen.

(c)—No separate figures for admission of Tribal patients are maintained.

(d)—No. It is not a fact.

(e)—There is no Government hospital/dispensary in the suburbs of Shillong.

(f)—This is a Municipality hospital and Government have no information as to whether this is in use or not.

(g)—Yes. There is no hospital/dispensary at Mawlai village of Shillong Subdivision.

(h)—In view of the impending shifting of the Shillong Civil Hospital from its present site to a new site with more indoor accommodation (30) beds) it is at present not considered necessary to convert the segregation hospital into a Civil Hospital for treatment of Tribal people as the new hospital, when started will, it is hoped, meet the requirement of the Tribal people as well as of others.

Regarding Scheduled Employees of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills serving in the Civil Surgeon Office, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills

Shri HENRY COTTON [Nongstoin (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] asked:

777. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical and Public Health, be pleased to state—

(a) The number and designation of Scheduled tribal Assistants from the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills district serving in the office of the Civil Surgeon, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills District, Shillong ?

(b) The number and designation of Assistants belonging to other communities ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge, Medical) replied:

777. (a)—Nil.

(b)—Three—Head Assistant
Office Assistant

..	..	1
...	...	2
Total 1...		3

Regarding Marketing Society of the State

Md. MATLEBBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked:

778. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operation be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the various functions of a Co-operative Marketing Society ?
- (b) What amount of subsidiary has been given to the Kharupetia Co-operative Marketing Society since its start ?
- (c) What is the total number of share-holder of the said Marketing Society at present ?
- (d) Whether the Marketing Society is meant for the welfare of the middleman or the business ?
- (e) Whether any businessmen have purchased the share from the said Marketing Society ?
- (f) Whether the said Society has advanced loan to its members against any deposit of crops to the godown ?
- (g) Whether the Marketing Society has any deposit of crops in its godown at present and if so, what are those crops and of what value ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that the said Society has purchased a huge quantity of jute from the market and kept as deposit in the godown ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that this jute has been purchased by violating the orders of the Assistant Registrar ?
- (j) Whether the Kharupetia Marketing Society has ever been inspected and audited since its start and if so, what was the audit report ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied:

778. (a)—The various functions of a Marketing Society are embodied in bye-law No.3 which is reproduced below:—

1. To arrange for the sale of produce of the members of affiliated societies and other members to the best of advantage ;
2. To purchase and sell agricultural produces such as paddy, jute, cotton, potatoes, mustard seeds, etc., and farm and farmers' requisites ;
3. To rent or own godowns or sale-depots to facilitate the storing and sale of produces and to do the business of licenced warehouse keepers ;
4. To act as agent of members for the disposal of their produces ;
5. Generally to co-ordinate the activities of large-sized as well as other credit societies and various non-credit societies which are within the area of operation by getting them into touch with the market place, the places of production and the prices prevailing in the province ;
6. To serve as an Information Bureau of raw produces and articles available in the province or elsewhere ;
7. To advance money on the security of produces of members sent for sale ;
8. To act as a purchasing agency for agricultural as well as Consumer Society and for other members ;
9. To do with and for non-members such business as is permitted in this bye-law No.3 and under such conditions as may be decided upon, from time to time, by the Board of Directors.
10. To help organised selling and recoveries of loans on behalf of the large-sized and other primary credit societies.
11. To act as recovering agents for the credit societies

(b)—Subsidy for staff—Rs.4,100, subsidy for Godown—Rs.5,000.

(c)—105 (i.e., affiliated societies)	...	...	12
Government	...	...	1
Individuals	...	...	92

(d)—A Marketing Society is meant for the welfare of the producers.

(e)—Yes, eight businessmen-cum-agriculturists having cultivation on their own lands have also become members of the society by purchasing shares for marketing their agricultural produces through the society.

(f) Yes, it has advanced as loan an amount of Rs.4,109 to its members against deposit of crops in the godown.

(g)—The present stock of the society and its value stands as follows:—

Name of the commodity	Quantity held under deposit	Amount advanced against quantity under deposit	Quantity purchased	Cost of the quantity purchased
Paddy ...	Mds. srs. ch.	Rs.	Mds. srs. ch.	Rs. np.
	232 8 8	2,500	238 10 4	2,859
Jute ...	132 30 0	1,609	1601 10 0	29,324·8

(h)—The society has purchased and stored 1,601 maunds 10 seers of jute in the godown but the quantity is not huge as compared to the quantity of jute annually exported to Calcutta from Kharupetia area which is not less than four lakhs of maunds.

(i)—Out of 1,601 maunds 10 seers of jute purchased, 423 maunds 17½ seers were purchased after being prevented by the Assistant Registrar during his visit on 6th October 1958.

(j)—The society has been regularly inspected, viz., on 7th May 1958, 6th June 1958, 7th March 1958, 24th September 1958, 6th October 1958 and 23rd November 1958 and audited by the Co-operative Staff upto date, viz., for 1957-58, on 3rd February 1959. The Society was registered on 21st August 1956 and the audit report for 1957-58 is enclosed herewith. The society earned a net profit of Rs.4·75 np. during 1956-57 and Rs.1,089·74 np. during 1957-58. All the major audit objections have been met with.

Regarding non-receipt of non-recurring Grant in Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

779. Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he would furnish a list of non-recurring grants sanctioned to different non-Government High Schools in Assam, subdivision-wise in the plains districts of Assam in the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the number of High Schools in Rural Areas of Dibrugarh Subdivision is comparatively less in proportion to its population than many Subdivisions such as Gauhati, Jorhat or Sibsagar ?
- (c) Why the non-recurring grants diverted to the High Schools in Dibrugarh Subdivision with apopulation of more than eight lakhs got less amount than many of the Subdivisions where the number of population is almost half of Dibrugarh, i.e., Jorhat ?

780. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he would furnish a list of non-Government Middle English Schools Subdivision-wise where non-recurring grants were sanctioned in 1958-59 ?
- (b) Why the number of Middle English Schools in Dibrugarh Subdivision is comparatively less than several Subdivisions although this is the biggest Subdivision in Assam ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister of Education) replied:

779. (a) to (c)—Information is being collected.

780. (a) and (b)—Information is being collected.

Regarding Preservation of Ikaratoli Forest Reserve

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked:

781. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that it was revealed in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1044 (b) that 140 bighas, 4 kathas and 16 lessas of grazing reserves had been under the occupation of Goneshbari Tea Company at Ikaratoli village, Dag No. 139 in Lohol Mouza in Dibrugarh Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that the public have been moving Government to restore this grazing or fuel reserves for the use of the public ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that resolution was adopted in a public meeting held at Ikaratoli village on 4th February, 1955 with Shri Romesh Chandra Baruah the then M. L. A. of the locality urging upon the Government to restore this grazing land for the purpose of the villagers of 8 (eight) neighbouring villages ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that the questioner referred this matter to the Revenue Minister on 6th June, 1958 again ?
- (e) Whether Government is aware that a resolution urging upon Government to restore this grazing land to the villagers was again adopted in a public meeting held on 14th June, 1958 at Lahoal with Srimati Lily Sen Gupta, the local M.L.A. in the chair ?
- (f) What action Government propose to take on these representations ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

1. (a) to (f)—Information has been called for.

Regarding the lands allotted to the S. D. O. Office Clerks, Barpeta

Dr. SHRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

782. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Clerks of Civil S. D. O. Office, Barpeta were allotted cultivable land at Barpeta Subdivision ?

(b) If so, what is the total bighas of land allotted in the names of clerks of the Barpeta Civil S. D. O. office (Answer is to be given in term of bighas against the names of each clerk) ?

(c) Whether those clerks themselves cultivate the lands ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

782. (a) to (c)—Information has been called for from the local officer.

Regarding the Preservation of Kakapathar Reserve

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

783. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that public of Chengeligaon in Kakapathar area had been applying to Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia to reserve about 150 bighas of sarkari land as Grazing Reserve in the area ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the public submitted applications on 17th November 1957, 10th February 1959 and 27th October 1958 and also for the same purpose ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that on 24th December 1958 the same public complained to Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh and Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia that the aforesaid plot of land was sold to certain people immigrated to that area ?

- (d) Whether local M. L. A. brought this to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh on 12th January 1959 ?
- (e) Why Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia did not take action on the public representations submitted to him separately ?
- (f) What action Government propose to take on this ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

783. (a) to (f)—Information have been called for.

Regarding the Tinsukia Grazing Reserve and the Sub-Deputy Collector concerned

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

784. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that the villagers of Kakapathar, Lalum and Upor Uban villages in Saikhowa Mouza had been moving the Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia to declare the area which they had been using for the purpose of grazing as a proper 'grazing reserve' ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that survey of the area was made by the Revenue staff in 1953 and the then Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia visited the area on 17th November 1957 and assured the public that he would take necessary steps to declare that area as grazing reserve and to evict the encroachers, if any ?
- (c) Whether Government is aware that after transfer of the then Sub-Deputy Collector not the present Sub-Deputy Collector has been giving settlement of a portion of the grazing reserve to immigrants from some other districts ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to declare the grazing area as "Grazing Reserve" ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

784. (a) to (d)—Information have been called for.

**Regarding the Tendency of Eviction Cases,
Nowgong**

Shri RAMI ATH SARMA (Lumding) asked :

785. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) How many eviction cases are pending for execution in the district of Nowgong till January, 1959 ?
- (b) How many eviction cases have been completed during the year April, 1958 to January, 1959 ?
- (c) How long these eviction proceedings are pending ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that during the pendency of some eviction proceedings, stay orders are procured by some parties and if so, which authority passed stay order and on what principle ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

785. (a) to (d)—Information have been called for.

**Regarding Upper Assam Multi-purpose Co-operative
Society's Registration**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

786. Will the Minister, Co-operation be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a Co-operative Society was formed at Kakapathar known as Upper Assam Multi-purpose Co-operative Society ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that this Co-operative applied for registration ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that this Co-operative took up the business of a Saw Mill and had to abandon due to non-registration ?
- (d) What were the difficulties in registering this Co-operative by the Department ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

786. (a) to (d)—Information have been called for.

Regarding Fixation of Seniority of Assam Secretariat Employees

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

787. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) The number of representations, appeals, memorials, etc. and their dates in respect of which order of refixation of seniority of Upper Division and Lower Division Assistants of the Assam Secretariat has been passed in the course of the last six months from February, 1959?

(b) The rules under which these appeals were entertained and disposed?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

787. (a)—In the course of last six months preceding February 1959 the order finalising seniority 'inter-se' of Upper Division and Lower Division Assistants has been passed in respect of about 203 appeals, memorials, representations, etc., submitted during the years 1957-1958.

(b)—Under Rule 28 of the Assam Secretariat Subordinate Service Rules, 1954, an appeal shall lie to the Governor against the order passed by the Chief Secretary under Rule 323(9) of the Assam Executive Manual. Government reserve to themselves the power of revising not only all cases of flagrant irregularities but also cases of material injustice.

Regarding the Principle of Refixation of Seniority, Assam Secretariat

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

788. (a) Whether it is a fact that the Assistants affected by the recent order of Government refixing the seniority are not being given a chance to represent their cases on the principles on which such refixation was made?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister) replied :

788. (a)—Yes, They are not allowed to represent their cases against the principles and policies of Government, but representations against error, if any, in applying the relevant principles are being entertained.

Regarding Mangaldoi Land Settlement Advisory Board

Md. MATLEBUDDIN (Dalgaon) asked:

789. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the total number of members in the Land Settlement Advisory Board for Mangaldai Sub-division ?
- (b) Who are they ?
- (c) How many of them are nominated by the Government and who are those members ?
- (d) On what basis these nominations were given ?
- (e) Whether one Mahammad Ali has recently been taken as a member to the Mangaldai Land Settlement Advisory Board ?
- (f) If so, on whose recommendations ?
- (g) What is his special qualification for being nominated as one of the members ?
- (h) Whether Government is aware that Shri Mahammad Ali left Assam for higher studies for a long time ?
- (i) If so, whether Government propose to cancel his membership and take another person in his place in the Board ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

789. (a) to (i)—Information have been called for.

Regarding Rehabilitation of eroded families of Mitong Bund, Sibsagar

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

790. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that the Mitong Bund, Jakaichuk Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision is eroding a large area of paddy lands ?
- (b) If so, how many acres of land have been eroded and how many families are affected ?
- (c) What provisions have been made for those whose paddy lands have been affected by the said bund or made unfit for cultivation ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to give land to those families who have been affected by the bund ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

790. (a) & (b)—No land is being eroded by Mitong bund in Jakaichuk Mauza. But the acquisition of about 231.40 acres of land for construction of bunds on both sides of the Mitong River have affected nearly 200 families.

(c)—As regards payment of compensation to the families affected by acquisition of land, the arrangement will be made for the same after completion of the acquisition proceedings.

(d)—The matter will be considered when a part of Matiari P. G. R. will be thrown open for settlement and if these families are found to be really landless.

Regarding flood affected paddy and persons of Jakaichuk, Sibsagar

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH asked :

791. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) What area (in terms of acres) of paddy land was affected by flood last year (1958-59) in Jakai-chuk Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision ?
- (b) The name of the villages and number of families and persons affected by this flood ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

791. (a)—2,590 acres.

(b)—The names of the villages affected by the flood of 1958-59 in Jakaichuk Mauza are—

1. Patuachella Khanda.
2. Hatighuli Khanda.
3. Khola Grazing Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

4. Silpukhuri gaon.

5. Alimur Miri.

6. Janmiri Bongaon.

7. Deoghoria Gotalgan gaon.

8. Bharalua.

9. Teliadonga.

10. Kumar Kaibartagaon.

11. Mokalani Rupahimukh Miri.

12. Rupahimukh Kumargaon 1 and 2.

13. Rupahimukh Block.

14. Mout Gharfalia Nos. 1 and 2.

15. Uopdaria Tipomia.

16. Sintamonigar 1 and 2.

17. Napam Bokajan.

18. Khutarahabi.

19. Bhitaraul.

20. Dimoruguri.

21. Kharkhori Block.

22. Bhanekhowa.

23. Khoradhora.

24. Nokatoni Kalugaon.

25. Mogloa Thekeraguri.

26. Dulia Desial

27. Namdangia Bongali.

28. Mitang Nakatoni.

Number of families affected

Number of persons affected

...

...

...

1,197.

...

...

...

9,714.

Regarding the condition of Joypore road, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa)
asked :

792. Will the Minister-in-charge of L. S.-G. be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the road about 2 miles long from Joypore road to Moderkhat Satra through Halikhola village in Moderkhat Mauza is under Dibrugarh Local Board ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the said road has not been maintained by Dibrugarh Local Board for the last 15 years ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Tengakhat C. D. Block also did not extend any help although it is functioning there since 1953 ?

(d) Why this road is being neglected by all the available agencies ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L. S.-G.) replied :

792. (a), (b), (c) & (d)—The information have been called for from the Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur.

Regarding the Chengelijan Agricultural Co-operative Society

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA asked :

793. Will the Minister-in-charge of Co-operative Societies be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that a Co-operative Society known as Chengelijan Agricultural Co-operative Society in Kakapathar area, Dibrugarh was formed in early part of last year and applied for registration on 4th March, 1958 ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that this Co-operative in Kakapathar area has not yet been registered ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that due to non-registration the Sub-Deputy Collector, Tinsukia has not yet allotted the waste land applied for by the Society ?

(d) When the registration of this Society may be expected ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

793. (a)—The Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Dibrugarh who is the authority for registration of all Co-operative Societies in Dibrugarh and Sibsagar Subdivisions reports that no organisation papers of any society with the name of Chengelijan Agricultural Co-operative Society have been received by him.

(b) to (d)—Do not arise.

Regarding Registered Weaving Societies, Nowgong

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

794. Will the Minister-in-charge of Cottage Industries Department be pleased to state—

(a) The number of registered Weaving Societies in Kaliabor area, Nowgong District ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that inferior quality of yarn is being supplied to these institutions ?

(c) The subsidy granted to each of these societies ?

Shri BISWADEV SARMA (Deputy Minister, Co-operation) replied :

794. (a)—The number of registered Weaving Co-operative Societies in the Kaliabor area (Nowgong District) is 18.

(b)—It is not a fact.

(c)—Subsidy granted to:—

	Rs.
1. Kuthori Boakata Samabay Samity	... 1,000
2. Hatbor Boakata Samabay Samity	... 5,560
3. Senchoa Boakata Samabay Samity	... 500

Looms and weaving accessories are also given to the societies as grants and loans.

Regarding the Flood affected Areas of the River Kokajan
Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) asked :

795. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the flood of Kokajan river always damage the crops and roads of some villages of Hollongapur and Chowkhat Mouza ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the matter was brought to the notice of the authority by the local people since the last few years but nothing has been undertaken for its remedy ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to enquire into the matter and take immediate measures ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied :

795. (a) to (c)—Information is being collected.

Regarding Boro Cultivation at Bermukot Pathar, Jorhat Subdivision

Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA asked :

796. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that a vast area of land covering about 55 thousand acres of land are lying water lapped in the Bermukot Pathar of Jorhat Subdivision since 1950 ?

(b) If so, why Government have not paid any attention to the grievances of the local people so long though public submitted various representations for it from time to time ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that in some portion of the area Boro cultivation has been undertaken by the local people since last year with good results ?

- (d) What is the total area subdivision-wise in Sibsagar district undertaken for Boro cultivation in the current year ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture) replied :

796. (a) to (d)—Information is being collected.

Regarding conditions of Game Watchers and promotion of Shri Utshab Chandra Kalita Forest Guard, Kamrup

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked:

797. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forest be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Game Watchers are provided with family quarters in North Kamrup Division ?
- (b) If not, why ?
- (c) Whether they will be provided with quarters ?
- (d) If so, when ?
- (e) Whether their posts are permanent or temporary ?
- (f) Whether their pay scales have been increased ?
- (g) If so, since when ?
- (h) What are the uniforms proposed to be provided to them ?
- (i) Whether the Game Watcher will be provided with full uniforms ?
- (j) If so, when ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that some junior Forest guards were promoted to post of Assistant Foresters in 1958 while Shri Utshab Chandra Kalita a Forest Guard was not promoted though he was Senior man ?
- (l) Whether Shri Utshab Chandra Kalita submitted petition to the Conservator of Forests on 29th October, 1958 about the consideration of his case ?

- (m) If so, what happened to it ?
- (n) Whether it is a fact that J. C. Das, Forest Ranger, recommended the promotion of Shri Utshab Chandra Kalita on 10th August, 1958 ?
- (o) If so, what happen to it ?
- (p) What is stated in the order of Conservator of Forests as contained in his Memo. No.B/1246., dated 29th January, 1953 ?
- (q) Why it was violated ?
- (r) Whether his case for promotion were recommended by Shri C. D. Borua, Forest Ranger on 3rd February, 1956 and by Shri K. R. Gogoi, Forester on 17th December 1952 and by Shri P. U. Nag, Deputy Ranger, Kulsi Range on 5th November 1950 ?
- (s) For how long Utshab Chandra Kalita is serving in the forest department ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forest) replied:

797. (a)—Free quarters are provided but not of family type.

(b)—Owing to paucity of fund. Under the Second Five Year Plan Scheme for development of Wild Life Sanctuaries these quarters are being gradually built to suit the purpose.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Provision of fund is being made under the Third Five Year Plan.

(e)—The posts are permanent.

(f)—Yes. the scale of pay have been revised from the previous existing scale of Rs.33—1—35—(E.B.)—1—45 to Rs.35—1—51—2—55.

(g)—The revised scales of pay came into effect from 1st October 1956.

(h)—The uniforms prescribed and supplied are the same as for Forest Guards with some minor modifications.

(i)—They are provided with full uniforms.

(j)—Does not arise.

(k)—No. Shri Utshab Chandra Kalita entered service since 1944. Forest Guards who entered service before 1942 only have been promoted according to seniority and merit.

(l)—An advance copy of his petition through the proper channel has been received by the Conservator.

(m)—His petition will be considered along with cases of others when promotion are effected from the rank of Forest Guards to Assistant Foresters.

(n)—The Conservator of Forests who is the authority competent to promote has received no such recommendation.

(o)—Does not arise.

(p)—The letter referred to was not of Conservator but of Divisional Forest Officer. It is stated that his case would be considered in due course according to seniority in that he was then too junior.

(q)—It was not violated.

(r)—The Conservator of Forests who is the authority competent to promote has received no such recommendation.

(s)—Since 1944.

Regarding Forest Manual Constitutions to revise

Shri GOPESH NAMASUDRA [Patharkandi (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)] asked:

798. Will the Minister-in-charge of Forest Department be pleased to state—

(a) The number of families residing in the Forest Reserve Villages in the State of Assam?

(b) The total number of persons with which these families are comprised of?

- (c) The quality of land given settlement to them ?
- (d) The rate of rent charged against each bigha so settled ?
- (e) The total amount of rent realised from them up till now ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the Reserve Forest Settlers have neither any legal right on the land they possess, nor their heir apparents have any hereditary right on the land ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the Officer-in-charge of a Beat or of a Range has the right to oust them from the land they possess and from their houses in the Reserve at any moment ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that other than an appeal to the Forest Department, the Forest Villagers have no right to seek justice in a Court of Law regarding the land from which they are ousted ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that near and dear ones or any relations of the Forest Villagers of the outside area, cannot proceed up to their houses or live with them for any short period in connection with any social affairs even after obtaining previous permission from Forest Officers ?
- (j) Whether it is also a fact that any Forest Villager intending to marry one who live outside the Forest area is to obtain permission from the Forest authority ?
- (k) Whether Government will be pleased to amend the Forest Manual in accordance with the rights and provisions granted in the Constitutions ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forests) replied :

798. (a)—Approximately 17,000.

(b)—Approximately 86,000.

(c)—Both Bari and rupit land.

(d)—Normally 00·37 Naya paise per bigha.

(e)—Approximately Rs.82,500·00 Np. during the year 1957-58.

(f)—Yes.

(g)—No.

(h)—No. When a villager is evicted under orders of a Divisional Forest Officer he has a right of appeal to the Deputy Commissioner. If the Deputy Commissioner disagrees with the order of eviction, he refers the matter to the Conservator of Forests whose decision is final. A Forest villager is not prevented from going to the Court of Law if admissible, under the Constitution of India.

(i)—It is not a fact.

(j)—It is not a fact.

(k)—There is nothing repugnant to the Constitution in the present rules, so the question of amendment of the Forest Manual does not arise.

Regarding pay demanded by All Assam Gaonbura Sanmilan

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

799. Will the Minister-in-charge, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government have lately received representations from the Gaonbura Sanmilan of Assam about their grievances?

(b) If so, what are their grievances placed before the Government for redress?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Sanmilan demanded introduction of monthly salary system for the Gaonburas?

- (d) If so, what decision was arrived at by the Government ?
- (e) What were the benefits as privileges enjoyed by the Gaonburas from 1950 onward from the Government ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that a discontentment is prevailing among the Gaonburas for not receiving any tangible benefits by them during these years ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to consider their complaints without further delay ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied:

799. (a)—Yes, a memorandum has been submitted by a deputation of Gaonburas before the Minister, Revenue on 6th March 1959.

(b)—Grievances are—

- (1) To treat the Gaonburas as salaried Government servants.
- (2) To pay monthly salaries of Rs. 60 each.
- (3) Till action for monthly payment is taken, these Gaonburas who do not possess 5 puras of land should be paid the amount of land revenue assessable on 5 puras.
- (4) Free studentship upto College standard should be given to their children.
- (5) To nominate them as members of village panchayats.
- (6) To give them facilities to participate in Small Savings Campaign, Agricultural improvement and in Co-operative publicity, etc.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—In order that the Gaonburas may not lose their non-official status as leaders in the villages, it was decided not to place them in the category of Government servants.

(e)—Benefits and privileges enjoyed by the Gaonburas in addition to remission of Land Revenue for 20 bighas of best quality of cultivable land, are as follows—

- (1) They get allotments of waste lands where available when they do not have economic holdings.
- (2) There is provision for Gold Rings to be awarded to the best Gaonburas. The number of such rewards has since been increased from 24 to 44.
- (3) They are exempted from payment of ferry tolls while travelling on duty.
- (4) They are granted free medical treatment to the extent admissible to the State Government servants.
- (5) They are allowed cost of maintenance of Notice Board @ Rs. 2 per annum per Gaonbura.

(f)—Gaonburas are not regular Government servants. In addition to their public duties entrusted by Government and benefits thereto, they can engage themselves in any business to add to their income in their private capacity. Government regard this and other benefits and privileges enumerated at (e) above as substantial. Other concessions as per representation are under consideration.

(g)—The representations were received on 6th March 1959. They are under examination by Government.

Regarding Medical Requirement supplied by E. I. P. W.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

800. Will the Minister, Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that a circular was issued by the Government to the Civil Surgeons of the State that at least 60 per cent of the total Government indent in medicinal requirement should go to the East India Pharmaceutical Workshop ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that Government has advised all Civil Surgeons, District Medical Officers and other Officers of Public Health District to place orders of medical requirement of chemicals, tinctures and patent drugs of different manufactures as well as of the East India Pharmaceutical Work shop to the East India Pharmaceutical Work shops (E. I. P. W.) ?
- (c) Whether Government put orders of their medicinal requirement on Government indent books or on Private company's indent books ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that Indent books of Private Firms, like E. I. P. W. are supplied to difficult Government Hospital for indenties of Drugs ?
- (e) If the answer to (a) above be in the affirmative why Government have decided to order their medicinal requirement from E. I. P. W. when almost all the important medical Firms have their depots in Assam ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical) replied:

800. (a)—A circular was issued for placing orders to the extent of 25 per cent of the requirement of medical stores with the East India Pharmaceutical Works but that was subsequently superceded by another circular giving direction to all indenting officers to obtain their local supplies from the approved firm by obtaining quotations.

(b)—No.

(c)—Medicines and other equipments required by the Medical Department are generally obtained from Medical Stores Depot, Calcutta and orders for the purpose are placed in the books prescribed by Government. In respect of supplies required to be obtained from private firms indents are sent generally on Government books.

(d)—Private firms might supply their indent forms to indenting officers but it is not obligatory for the indenting officers to place orders in the forms so supplied.

(e)—In view of answer to question (a) no reply seems necessary.

**Regarding duties and functions of Chairman of
Primary School Board and governing
Principle of both Colleges**

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED (Tarabari) asked:

801. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) What are the functions of the Chairman of Subdivisional Primary School Boards ?
- (b) Whether he is given powers of inspection ?
- (c) Who is the authority for appointments and transfers, etc., of persons serving under School Boards, *i.e.*, whether the Chairman, Secretary or the Board ?
- (d) On what consideration, members to the Primary Schools Boards, to the Managing Committee of High English Schools (both Government and Government Aided) are nominated by Government ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that there is no provision for direct representation of the guardians in the Governing bodies of the Government Aided Colleges under rules made by the Education Department and that representation of the guardians are made through co-operation by other members of the Governing Bodies ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact or Government are aware of the public feeling that all the Chairmen (who are Government nominated members of the Primary School Boards) and the Government nominated members of the Governing Bodies of Colleges and the Managing Committees of High English Schools, throughout the State belong to a particular political party and qualifications were not taken into consideration at the time of their nomination to these bodies ?

802. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any amount was given to Barpeta Sub-divisional Primary Education Board to spend the same for the improvement of the conditions of the Lower Primary Schools and Basic Schools and also to purchase equipment during the past three years ?

(b) If so, what is the amount and whether any tender is called for, for spending such amount ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

801. (a)—The functions are noted under Rule 12 of the Basic Education Act.

(b)—Yes, under Rule 12 (3).

(c)—Appointment and other powers are guided by Rule 12(4), (5) & (6). Appointments are made by the Chairman on the recommendation of the Secretary and transfers are made by Secretary on the recommendations of the Inspecting Officers.

(d)—According to Rule 16 of Basic Education Act.

(e)—Yes, the Governing Body of a college is constituted under the provisions of the Gauhati University Act.

(f)—No. The nominations are made keeping the interest of the Educational institutions in view.

802. (a) & (b)—Reports are being called for.

Regarding land settled by S.D.C. of some families in Kamrup

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

803. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Who is the present Sub-Deputy Collector in Tamulpur Circle (Kamrup district) ?

(b) The total number of persons to whom cultivable land have been allotted by the said Sub-Deputy Collector since his posting to Tamulpur and the total number of bighas of land so settled ?

(c) Whether those persons who were allotted with lands are landless and from which subdivision they hail ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that persons who possess considerable cultivable lands were also allotted further cultivable lands ?

(e) If so, who are they and the number of bighas of land settled with each of them ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

803. (a)—Shri Harendra Kumar Nath, Sub-Deputy Collector and Shri Dharanidhar Choudhury, Sub-Deputy Collector and Assistant Settlement Officer.

(b)—The present Sub-Deputy Collector and Assistant Settlement Officer settled 287B 4K. 18L. of land to 30 (thirty) families ?

(c)—20 were totally landless and others had less than economic holdings. They are from Gauhati Subdivision.

(d)—No.

(e)—Does not arise.

Regarding encroachment by Barpeta Congress Office

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

804. Will the Minister of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that one timber businessman was lately fined by the civil Sub-Deputy Collector, Barpeta for keeping timber goods on the road side area of Barpeta Tarabari Road on the ground of encroachment on the 1st mile ?

(b) If so, what was the amount of fined imposed and when the materials will be removed ?

- (c) Whether Government is aware that Barpeta Congress Office which is under construction near the court is situated on the road side of the same road and similarly encroached road side lands ?
- (d) If so, what steps Government is going to take against such encroachment ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that strong objection were made by the Public Works Department for such encroachment ?
- (f) If so, what is the result of such objection ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied:

804. (a)—No.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—No, there has not been any encroachment. The land on which the Barpeta Congress Office is under construction is a periodic patta land of the Barpeta District Congress Committee.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—No objection whatsoever was made by the Public Works Department.

(f)—Does not arise.

Regarding settlement of land by S.D.O. without consulting land Advisory Board at Barpeta

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

805. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta is empowered to recommend settlement of lands to persons in town areas without consulting the Land Settlement Advisory Committee ?

- (b) If not, whether the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta recommended for settlement of 4 lessas of land in Sorbhog town to the Government to one Sasti Ghosh while the matter was pending before the Advisory Committee ?
- (c) When the matter was referred to the Government ?
- (d) When the Land Settlement Advisory Committee was constituted in Barpeta Subdivision ?
- (e) Whether the matter will again be referred to the Land Settlement Advisory Board, Barpeta ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that some of the papers in this connection were lost or stolen ?
- (g) Whether Government will enquire about it ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

805. (a)—Yes, under the settlement rules the Subdivisional Officer is competent to grant settlement of town land subject to confirmation by Government. Consultation with Land Settlement Advisory Committee is not statutory.

(b)—The Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta recommended settlement of 4 lessas of land comprised in dag No. 1245 (Kha) of Sarbhog Town with Shri Sasti Charan Ghosh. The matter was not pending before Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(c)—The proposal was submitted by the Subdivisional Officer, Barpeta to Government through the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup on 15th November 1957.

(d)—The Land Settlement Advisory Committee was constituted in July, 1957.

(e)—Government have confirmed the settlement. The question of referring the matter to the Land Settlement Advisory Committee does not arise.

(f)—No.

(g)—Does not arise.

**Regarding eviction of encroachment of Indian Tea Planter
at Dibrugarh**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

806. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No.775(a) and (i) asked by the Questioner in the Assembly on 2nd May, 1958 and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the Indian Tea Planter who encroached the village Grazing Reserve in Phutahulagaon in Moderkhat Mouza in Dibrugarh Subdivision has not yet been evicted ?
- (b) Whether Government had confirmed this encroachment in this house as stated above ?
- (c) If the reply to (a) above is in the affirmative, what are the reasons for the delay in making the eviction ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

806.(a) to (c)—Information have been called for.

**Regarding land occupied by Tea Planter from cultivator
in Dibrugarh**

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

807. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that an area of 39 bighas, 1 katha 13 lessas of Sarkari land was settled with an Indian Tea Planter by a Sub-Deputy Collector in Phutahula village in Moderkhat Mouza in Dibrugarh Subdivision without referring to the Land Advisory Board or the Government?
- (b) Whether Government is aware that this land was under occupation of certain cultivators on annual lease basis and was cancelled with a view to settle with the Tea Planter ?

- (c) Whether Government confirmed in reply to Unstarred Question No.775(f) asked by the Questioner in the Assembly on the 2nd May, 1958 that the Sub-Deputy Collector concerned acted against the land policy of the Government ?
- (d) Whether Government is aware that Patta holders are not allowed to grow permanent crops on annual patta land ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the Tea Planter is proposing to plant Tea there ?
- (f) Whether Government propose to cancel these lands from the Tea Planter and settle the same with landless cultivators ?
- (g) Whether Government confirmed in reply to Unstarred Question No.775(g) asked by the Questioner in the Assembly on the 2nd May, 1958 that action against the Sub-Deputy Collector would be taken for violating the land policy of the Government ?
- (h) Whether formal proceeding against Sub-Deputy Collector in question has been drawn up ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

807.(a) to (h)—Information have been called for.

Regarding transfer of land in Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA [(Saikhowa)] asked :

808. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that one non-cultivator businessman has purchased 131 bighas 2 kathas and 11 lessas of period patta land in Phutaholagaon of Moderkhat Mouza in Dibrugarh Subdivision and that it was confirmed in reply to Unstarred Question No.755(h) asked by the Questioner in the Assembly on the 2nd May, 1958 ?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the land in question belonged to cultivators out of which 97 bighas and 11 lessas belonged to *ex*-Tea garden labour community?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that transfer of land from Mattaks and *ex*-Tea garden labours in Dibrugarh Eastern Circle to this particular section of businessmen is prohibited under Rule 6 in part VI, Chapter II of the Assam Land Revenue Manual without prior approval of the Deputy Commissioner?
- (d) Whether Government is aware or received reports to the effect that this businessman created such a situation in which this cultivators were compelled to sell away their land?
- (e) Whether Government propose to cancel the transfer of land with immediate effect?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

808.(a) to (e)—Information have been called for.

Regarding eviction of encroachers, Dibrugarh

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

809. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the encroachment case against a Tea Planter for his encroachment upon a "Gobat" of 260 feet long in Dag No.307 in Phutahola village in Moderkhat Mouza, Dibrugarh Sub-division has been operated and he has been evicted from there?
- (b) If so, when he was evicted and when the encroachment was made?
- (c) If so, why the eviction has been delayed by the Local Officer?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

809.(a) to (c)—Information have been called for.

Regarding T. B. Revenues from Kapaujari, Karatipar, etc.

Maulavi RAHIMUDDIN AHMED (Jamunamukh) asked :

810. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue Department be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that in the year 1943-44 about eight hundred bighas of waste land in Kapaujari and Karatipar Kisamats of Ghagua Mauza in Nowgong District were converted into a mixed block by withdrawing the Line there from under order of the then Deputy Commissioner and settlement of the same was given to 72 landless immigrant muslims ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that these landless immigrant people have been in undisturbed occupation of the land given to them for the last fifteen years ?
- (c) If so, whether it is a fact that the T. B. Revenues are being realised from these people since the time of settlement ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that these people have made the land fit for cultivation and habitation at a great cost of labour and money ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that as a result of their painstaking labour and efforts a prosperous village with a Pucca Mosque and a recognised Lower Primary School has sprung up in the said waste land given to these people ?
- (f) Whether Government are aware that during these fifteen years these people are peacefully living there without any hitch or quarrel with any neighbouring people ?
- (g) Why pattas have not been given to these people for this land settled with them by the Government for these fifteen years ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Revenue Minister) replied :

810(a)—No allotment of 560 bighas of land was made to 72 immigrant families, but the allotment was stayed as there was the proposal for constitution of a tribal block.

(b)—Yes, they continued to stay on the land since 1944 and T. B. Revenue was collected from them. The local Tribal people had been objecting to their stay there from the very beginning. At present there are 43 families only.

(c)—Yes. T. B. Revenue is realised because settlement could not be allowed to these non-tribals in the proposed Tribal block.

(d)—Yes, the area was fallow and the occupants cultivated it and built their houses on it.

(e)—Yes, there is mosque with cutcha floor and C. I. sheet roofing and a recognised Lower Primary School.

(f) There was a hitch between these immigrant settlers and the local tribal people and the tribal people have been continuously objecting to the settlement of land to these immigrants. The area is surrounded by Tribal villages on all sides.

(g)—Settlement could not be allowed to these non-tribals in a proposed tribal belt. There is a proposal to shift these immigrant to some other alternative site.

Regarding construction of Barpeta Congress house and the Local Board's Power to knock down the bid amount

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) asked :

811. Will the Minister, Local-Self Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Barpeta Local Board have settled three hats (Howli, Tarabari and Athiabari) for below the amount, knocked down in open bid and thereby causing a loss of about Rs. 20,000 to the Board and for the matter of that to the Public?

- (b) Whether it is a fact that the Local Board have no power to reduce the amount at which the bids were knocked down ?
- (c) If so, whether Government propose to take proper steps to safe-guard the interest of the people, by instructing the proper functionary not to confirm the settlement which is *ultra-vires* the L.B. Act and Manual ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that the said Local Board have taken Rs. 10,000 from the lessees of those three hats (Howli, Tarabari, Athiabari) for the new Congress House at Barpeta town ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, L.S.-G.) replied :

811. (a)—No.

(b)—According to rule the Board is not bound to accept the highest or any bid, but in that case the reasons for not accepting such bid must be recorded.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—Government have no information.

Regarding eviction of Barbill-Kacharibari P.G.R. Settlers

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri) asked:

812. Will the Minister, Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) The year when the Barbill-Kacharibari P.G.R. - Dhing Mauza, Nowgong District was dere-served ?

(b) If so, what was the principle followed in distribution of the dereserved portion ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that Shri Jahurulla Munshi of Dhopaguri village, Batradava Mauza and Mauzadar of Mairabari Mauza were allotted 250 bighas and 80 bighas of land one of the P.G.R. respectively ?

- (d) If so, why ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that another 1,700 bighas of this P.G.R. were settled with some deserving persons including 60 Nepali families ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that the families enjoying these 1,700 bighas are served with eviction notices ?
- (g) If so, why ?
- (h) Whether it is a fact that on 29th December, 1956 the then Revenue Minister called the peasants of the surrounding village (Naam Dumdoomia Satra, Betkali, Baligaon, Raja Gaon, etc.), of this P.G.R. to Nowgong Town and assured dereservation of this P.G.R. to the peasant and accordingly dereservation order was issued ?
- (i) Why settlement has been delayed ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that the landless peasant have formed a Co-operative and have applied for land to this Co-operative ?
- (k) Why land is not settled with this Co-operative ?
- (l) Whether Government will be pleased to allot to this Co-operative ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Revenue) replied :

812. (a)—300 bighas of land was deserved in 1957. Besides, 2,200 bighas were temporarily thrown open to cultivation in the following years:—

1951	...	...	...	...	200 bighas.
1953	...	...	...	...	1,400 ,,
1956	...	...	...	...	600 ११

(b)—Landless deserving cultivators were given land in the P.G.R. preference being given to the people of the neighbourhood and had no economic holding.

(c)—No.

(d)—Does not arise.

(e)—Out of 1,400 bighas of land temporarily thrown open in the year 1953, an area of 368 bighas was allotted to 66 Nepalee families, on T. B. basis for 3 years.

(f)—No.

(g)—Does not arise.

(h)—Government have no information that the then Revenue Minister called these peasants to Nowgong on 29th December, 1956 and assured them of dereservation of the P.G.R. But Government directed that the 300 bighas of land dereserved in 1957 may be settled with the landless dereserving people of Namdumia and Chamagaon villages.

(i)—It took some time to survey the area cadastrally. Moreover, the P.G.R. was also under encroachment which delayed settlement of land in the permanently dereserved portion of the P.G.R.

(j)—No registered Co-operative Societies had applied for land in the dereserved portion of the P.G.R. On 1st May, 1958 Shri Lakshmi Kanta Barua and others applied for land in the Barbeel-Kacharibari P.G.R. for cultivation on Co-operative basis. Government have asked the Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong to submit a report with views of the Land Settlement Advisory Committee.

(k)—Because the matter is still under enquiry.

(l)—It will be decided on merit.

Regarding Nalbari Roads in the name of local leaders to be taken by Government to improve its condition

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog) asked :

813. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether there are any Public Works Department Roads in the State associated with the names of local leaders ?

(b) If so, what are the names of such Public Works Department Roads ?

(c) When Pratap Choudhury road in N. K. Division was taken by the Public Works Department along with Nalbari Kamarkuchi Road ?

(d) Whether Nalbari Municipal Board on the occasion of 1st Independence Day in 1947 was named the Nalbari Bazar Road before it was taken by the Public Works Department ?

(e) Why this portion of the road is given up by Public Works Department when the local public demanded to continue the link Road to be named after Pratap Choudhury ?

(f) Whether Government is aware that Nalbari Municipality passed unanimous resolution for the Public Works Department to continue maintenance of Pratap Choudhury Link Road to Nalbari-Kamarkuchi Road ?

(g) Whether Government is also aware that without Pratap Choudhury Road, Nalbari-Kamarkuchi Road remains disconnected with N. T. Road, Nalpari-Palla Road and Nalbari-Hajo Road ?

(h) Whether Government is aware that due to the fact that Pratap Choudhury Road is maintained by nobody for the last four months, its condition has become very bad ?

(i) Whether such action is regulated by the personal likes and dislikes of any authority of the Public Works Department ?

(j) If not, whether Government propose to continue maintenance of Pratap Choudhury Road as usual as a Link Road to Nalbari-Kamarkuchi Public Works Department Road ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)]
replied :

813. (a)—Yes, there are some.

(b)—A few names are given below:—

(1) Bhimbar Ali, (2) Kushal Kownar Ali, (3) Saniram Mandal Road, (4) Lokapriya Bordoloi Road.

(c)—A portion 943' ft. of Pratap Choudhury Road linking Nalbari-Kamarkuchi Road under Nalbari Municipality was taken up during 1954-55 for improvement along with Nalbari-Kamarkuchi road.

(d)—It is not a fact that the Nalbari-Municipal Board was named Nalbari Bazar road and the Board was taken over by Public Works Department for improvement.

(e)—Pratap Choudhury Road is not included in any of the approved road Development Programmes. As a portion of this road forms link to Nalbari-Kamarkuchi Road, included in the 1st Five Year Plan it was decided to improve that portion also along with Nalbari-Kamarkuchi Road. Accordingly this portion was improved and returned to the Municipal Board for future maintenance after improvement.

(f) —Yes.

(g)—It is a fact that Pratap Choudhury road connects N. T. Road, Nalbari-Palla Road and Nalbari-Hajo Road, but as Pratap Choudhury Road is already there, the question of disconnection does not arise.

(h)—Since the road has been returned to the Municipality, it is the responsibility of the Board to maintain it. Its condition cannot be very bad as the road has been improved to Public Works Department standard by Public Works Department and transferred only on 1st November 1958.

(i)—No.

(j)—Government have already decided that this being a road under Municipality, future maintenance of this road should be continued by the Municipality out of their grant under communication. The main necessity of a road is its initial improvement, which has already been done by Government.

Regarding unanimous opinion of construction of Azad Barigaon Road

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur) asked:

814. Will the Minister-in-charge of P.W.D. (R. & B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that a road named Azad Barigaon *via* Kolutagaon was sanctioned in 1955-56?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that due to differences between parties regarding alignments, a meeting was convened of all parties and an agreed solution was made on 4th October 1956 in which all parties signed?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that the Department officers took no note of this unanimous decision though it was done on the Department's initiation?
- (d) If so, how this omission took place?
- (e) Whether Government will make an enquiry and find out the person who is responsible for this omission?
- (g) Whether Government will take stern action against the officers at fault?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, P.W.D.) replied:

814. (a)—No. But a length of 4 miles of the road by name "Kamalabari towards Azad was sanctioned during 1956-57.

(b), (c), (d), (e) & (g)—Detailed particulars have been called for from Local Officers.

Speaker's announcement regarding the Presentation of a Canon of historic value by Shri Prokritish Chandra Barua, M.L.A.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : So far as replies which have not been taken up are concerned, I suggest that these replies may be sent to the hon. Members for their information.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri) : Otherwise please extend the time limit of the question hour.

Mr. SPEAKER : Before I take up what Mr. Goswami has suggested it is my pleasure to announce that hon. Shri Prakritish Chandra Barua has donated a cannon to the Assam Legislative Assembly. It is of historic value. The cannon has been deciphered by the well-known Archiologist Shri Rajmohan Nath. The cannon was made under orders of Shri Raghu-dev Narayan of Cooch Bihar in Saka 1519. We are grateful to the hon. Member for the gift. It has been placed at the entrance of the Assembly Chamber. Hon. Members may go and see it.

Speaker's statement regarding the un-answered Starred Questions of the day

Mr. SPEAKER : Now I shall take up the question raised by hon. Shri Goswami who is also the leader of the Opposition. He has suggested that all the replies which are ready should be sent to the hon. Members. I remember that last time we decided that they should form part of the proceedings. I said that this should not be a precedent and I hoped that things would improve. In accordance with what I had said last time I might direct that they will form part of the proceedings and the replies would be sent to the hon. Members. This time we received all told 1255 questions of all categories and upto date replies to 1173 questions have been received. I need not say that these replies include also "information being collected" and I am told such answers form a substantial part of the replies. Short notice questions we got 3 and replies 3, starred questions 398 and replies 356, unstarred questions 855 and replies 814.

I do not want to go into the question any further. It has been exercising the minds of the hon. Members of this House including myself. Therefore by virtue of rule 315 of the rules of procedure I have decided to appoint a Committee consisting of Shri F. A. Ahmed, Leader of Government business in this House now, Shri Hareswar Goswami, Leader of the Opposition, M. Moinul Haque Choudhury, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya and Shri Ramnath Das, Chairman of the Assurance Committee. They will go into the whole question of submission of questions, their scrutiny and replies and suggest ways and means to improve the position. I hope the hon. Members will bear with me till such time as we receive their advice and then we shall be able to do the needful.

There is another suggestion. I understand from both the Leader of Government business and Minister for Parliamentary Affairs as well as the Leader of the Opposition and Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya, most of whom are members of the Committee I have just now announced, that hon. Members would like to conclude the work of this session this evening. So we discussed the matter and it has been decided that Government would

provide us with a list of priorities so far as their measures are concerned and in addition we will get through certain item which may take precedence. Therefore, may I suggest that we finish the important part of the business and leave such measures which are not urgent in character and might wait for some time? In this connection may I make the observation that hasty legislation makes bad laws. Therefore we might take up those laws which can wait for the time being till a later date. In the meanwhile I suggest on the advice of these Friends that we sit till 5-30 then break for tea for an hour and sit again from 6-30 as long as we can? (Voices from independent benches : This is too much for us). We have to work longer hours if we want to do our business. May I get the view of the hon. Leader of the Government business?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): We have agreed to this. There are certain important matters which have to be finished today, and it is the desire of the hon. Members that the session should not continue beyond today and such other matters which cannot be taken up today might be taken up at some other time. So we are to sit longer than usual. As has been kindly suggested by you we break from 5-30 to 6-30. There will be a light refreshment which has been arranged for all hon. Members. This arrangement should be acceptable to us as we are to get through some important measures so that we may not have to sit tomorrow.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): চাব, দেবিকৈ বহিব লগাব কাৰণে বিস্তৰী মহোদয়ে চাই যোগাব কৰিবনে ?

Mr. SPEAKER : Tea is not going to be provided by the Finance Minister. I suppose the Assembly establishment is not so poor as to be unable to entertain the hon. Members with light refreshment.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): As the hon. Speaker has said hasty legislation makes bad laws, so we should finish today as far as possible and then we may have a short session after the Bihu.

Mr. SPEAKER : That is not for the House to decide, that is for the Government to decide. The problem is that certain bills have to be passed in this session, for instance the Panchayat Bill and certain concomitant legislation in addition calling attention motion has to be disposed of, otherwise we would be violating the spirit of the rules of procedure.

Is that the pleasure of the House?

(Voices : Yes)

The Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959**Mr. SPEAKER :** There is a message.

"Under the provision of Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India, I, Saiyid Fazl Ali, Governor of Assam, recommend the introduction in the Assam Legislative Assembly of the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959.

7th April, 1959 :

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Saiyid Fazl Ali,

Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that the leave be granted to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959 ? (Voices: Yes).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959 be introduced.

(The question was adopted)

(The Secretary, Legislative Assembly read out the title of the Bill.)

Mr. SPEAKER : There is a message.

"Under the provision of Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India, I, Saiyid Fazl Ali, Governor of Assam, recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

7th April, 1959 :

}

Saiyid Fazl Ali,

Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No.III) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959**Mr. SPEAKER:**

There is a message :

"Under the provision of Article 207(1) of the Constitution of India, I, Saiyid Fazl Ali, Governor of Assam, recommend the introduction in the Assam Legislative Assembly of the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959.

The 7th April, 1959 : }

Saiyid Fazl Ali,

Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg leave to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that the leave be granted to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No IV) Bill, 1959 ?

(Voices : Yes)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No IV) Bill, 1959 be introduced.

(The question was adopted)

(The Secretary, Legislative Assembly read out the title of the Bill.)

Mr. SPEAKER : There is a message.

"Under the provision of Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India, I, Saiyid Fazl Ali, Governor of Assam, recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

The 7th April, 1959 : }

Saiyid Fazl Ali,

Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No.IV) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

**The Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and
Allowances Bill, 1959**

Mr. SPEAKER : There is a message.

I recommend under Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

The 25th March, 1959 :

Saiyid Fazl Ali,

Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

**The Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill,
1959**

Mr. SPEAKER : There is a message.

"I recommend under Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

The 25th March, 1959

Saiyid Fazl Ali,

Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I beg to move that the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959

Mr. SPEAKER : There is a message.

"I recommend under Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration by the Assam Legislative Assembly.

The 25th March, 1959 :

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Saiyid Fazl Ali,
Governor of Assam."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Panchayat Bill, 1958

Mr. SPEAKER : There are Amendments to the Panchayat Bill.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I may suggest that those hon. Members who want to speak on the Bill may be allowed to do so.

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh)**: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill after it has been passed by the Select Committee has changed its complexion as there are very many changes which have been incorporated in this Bill.

This is undoubtedly one of the most important pieces of legislation, as has been drafted, to give proper scope for proper functioning of the Panchayat. This is one of the best legislations in the country. I have gone through the draft of the Bill and its provisions. But even then there are some glaring defects which if removed at this stage would have been better. The most important point that the Select Committee has tackled is that it has reached an unanimous decision. In this Bill there are provisions for Gaon Panchayats, Anchalik Panchayats, Mahkuma Parishad, etc. But the powers have been divided between the Village Panchayat and Anchalik Panchayat. There will be a number of small local boards which may have to act like shock-absorber. Why we want Panchayat? We want it because the real power should be given to the people. That is the basic motive. We find here that the Anchalik Panchayat will give directive and so it is very likely that the Anchalik Panchayat will be more powerful than the Village Panchayat. We find that the intention of the Rural Panchayat is to see how they can mobilise the initiative of the people. But this provision has been left unaltered. Sir, though power has been divided between the Village Panchayat and the Anchalik Panchayat some changes in this connection are necessary, because it is found that the power given to Village Panchayat is found to be too small. A Village Panchayat with a population of 2,500 is going to be a self-governing unit. For that purpose, I believe, it would have been better had the provision been made in this Bill to constitute village panchayats with a population of at least 5,000 and have an earning of at least Rs. 10,000, because smaller the unit lessers the power and scopes limited.

Moreover, we find that powers given to the district boards are those which remain after giving some to Anchalik Panchayats and some kept in the State Government. Power has not been conferred on the village panchayats to collect local taxes and local revenue. There is a provision but it will depend on the Government if the desires they may divest the power on the village panchayats but, in my opinion the collection of local taxes and local revenues should be entirely left with the village panchayats. Further, we find that for block panchayats it has been renamed as anchalik panchayats. At present it appears that the Community Development Block or National Extension Service Blocks which are artificially organised and imposed on our people. On the working of the Community Blocks and National Extension Service Blocks we have imported foreign ideas. We have brought ideas of these ideas from America. Our experts who live in New Delhi have brought in consideration the tradition, manner, democratic ideas, the life habituated etc., by our people. The idea is to develop a community life in a Community or National Extension Service block, but what do we find? We find of course a community of Officers of different departments, who are usually at loggerheads with one another. The real initiative of the people is not taken into account. The basic policies of these projects is to develop

the initiative in the people. That is not done. They go with a well-conceived idea and with cut and dry scheme. The whole scheme is quite and isolation of the people. If you ask any villager what are those buildings for, the reply is that some officers live there and they have got some officer there. If that is the reply do they take it as their own organ.

Now, this Anchalic Panchayat is kept just to set right the failure of the blocks to have full power on the panchayats. The basic powers, should be given to village units and the residuary powers the powers of co-ordination and powers of integration should be left to the panchayats. If this is done it will be good for the country.

Then the finance. Only 15 per cent will go to village Panchayats and 10 per cent to Anchalic Panchayats according to the provisions. It is necessary to give powers firstly to village panchayats to collect land revenues in order that our people can understand that the land revenue is really necessary for carrying out the programme that they have undertaken for their own good. That will create an initiative and the result will be that the people will consequently pay the land revenue voluntarily. If you give village panchayat 25 per cent then their financial position will be stabilised.

Regarding the budget of the Village panchayat, the basic defect is that the budget which they prepare is subject to scrutiny by the anchalic panchayat thus anchalic panchayat will have greater powers than the village panchayats. Thus most of the powers will be taken away by anchalic panchayats from village panchayats. So provision should be made to confer more powers to village panchayats but the Mahkuma parishad should mainly be of an advisory nature with of course some powers as the Mahkuma parishad will have district wise jurisdiction. If you give all powers to a village panchayat, there is likelihood of communal, social, or religious differences and in order to dissolve contradiction of interests the Mahkuma Parishad can play an important role having itself in the top of panchayats, in order that a sense of security and a sense of solidarity may be infused into the people and the village panchayats by the Mahkuma Parishad.

The rules should be such as to ensure a better morale of the people, officers and functionaries. The rules regarding election of Executive Committee is at page 18, which reads.—“Every Gaon Panchayat shall elect in the prescribed manner from among its members an Executive Committee called the Gaon Panchayats, a President and a Vice-President.” How they will elect has been left to the rule meaning powers but the method of election should be concretely stated in that page. Of course, in other matter regarding decisions in the meetings of gram and anchalik panchayats provision has been made. Regarding removal of President or Vice-President members can signify their assent by secret ballot but in the case of election of members to Anchalik-panchayat, Gram Panchayat and Mahkuma Parishad there is direct election, the elections to these also should be by secret ballot.

Then, we find that for the Mohkuma Parishad the powers of the Deputy Commissioner as was conceived in the original bill was kept like that. Of course, it is necessary for a district officer that he should be very closely connected with the panchayats but because he is the President of the Mohkuma Parishad he had already overriding powers, besides, the Deputy Commissioner has so many other powers, such as judicial, miscellaneous, etc. so he is overburdened: so he cannot do justice to more

given to him. The best course would have been to make the Deputy Commissioner the leader in this body composed of officials and non-officials so that he can help them with advice and guidance. He should also guide in working out the details of the Committee and that will ensure closer co-ordination and closer link with the people. Now, provision to that effect should have been made so that the Deputy Commissioner may be there in the advisory capacity to help this body in all matter affecting the lives of the people. This provision is not made even in the original bill so that this Mohkuna Parishad has become just a body which will give its approval or will disapprove certain matters and it would not be able to perform the functions it was intended to that is, integration of the different village panchayat units. Now, here in the Bill there is no provision how these officers, particularly the technical officers who may be there in the Panchayats will fit in. The most important point to be borne in mind is that closer liaison between these officials and non-officials should be achieved in order that programmes and plans may be properly implemented. It is not enough just to allow an officials to be a member of the Board without voting rights.

Mr. SPEAKER : To what part of the Select Committee's report is the hon. Member referring ?

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) :** I was saying that there should be closer link between technical officers and village panchayats way different levels to enable the panchayats how to operate technical skill, etc. There is no provision in the Bill, to the effect. I do not know how these difficulties can be obviated.

Now Sir, it is a healthy provision to have several sub-committees at different levels. It has also been provided in the bill that in these sub-committees other members also may be taken in to ensure co-operation of the people to a certain extent. It would have been more appreciated if the people are associated more fully in these sub-committees so that the people may contribute their technical skill, or to place, their own views with regard to planning and other matters for the benefit of their locality. For that purpose the powers of these committees and the method of their functioning should have been properly laid down. I think under the rules that may be prescribed under this Bill when it is passed into an Act things will improve to a certain extent.

Then again Sir, the Panchayats have been given also judicial powers, that is, so far these Panchayats are concerned strict provisions have been made regarding the ability of the persons who would be elected to these Village Panchayats. But here, caution should be exercised for giving power to these Panchayats that is to say, these judicial powers should be given to these panchayats in stages so that our people can adjust themselves to these things and they can use discretion in using these judicial powers because we have found by experience that in a few cases the old panchayats were given such judicial powers but these powers were excessively used in certain matters which is very undesirable. So I say greatest discretion should be used in giving judicial powers to these Panchayats. We all wish that such powers should be given to them so that smaller disputes may be settled and people may not have to go court for every dispute. Such powers should be given so that, as I have said, smaller cases may be compromised and the disputes resolved amicable as far as practicable.

Again, we find Sir, that these Panchayats have also been given power of raising loans. I think these powers should be given to the Mohkuma Parishad because actually it is they who know best about the activities in their respective areas whether loans are necessary or not. It may be that in a certain area which is rich, loans may not be necessary. So this power of raising loans should be left with the Mohkuma Parishad who may give proper advice in the matter of giving loans to the different village panchayats because after all these village panchayats are responsible for implementation of the various programmes and schemes both State and Central. At the same time we can enlist support of the people to give their concrete suggestions in planning which is most essential. Here the provision.

Mr. SPEAKER : May I interrupt the hon. Member. This question of raising loan is already provided in the original. I refer to section 71. But what I want to draw the attention of the hon. Member is this regard is the rule in keeping with the procedure of the House in this matter, that is Rules 75 per cent. Under the rules it is laid down "Scope of debate on report of Select Committee the debate on a motion that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration shall be confined to consideration of the report on the Committee and the matters referred to in that report or any alternative suggestion consistent with the principle of the Bill." The idea behind this rule is that hon. Members need not repeat some points in the Bill already touched by the Select Committee when these come before the House in the shape of the Select Committee Report.

***Shri NILMONY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh) :** I quite agree with you Sir, but I only raised this point because it is a very important point and I would like to dwell on it again.

With these words Sir, I support the Bill but I expect that at the Third Reading stage of the Bill Government will give proper consideration the amendment moved so that we may have successful panchayat system in the State with suitable financial and other facilities to enable the Panchayats to execute their functions in the interest of the State as a whole.

Shri BISHWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) :
माननीय अध्यक्षमहोदय ! सेलेक्ट कमिटी न जो बिल सदन के सामने रखा है उसके बारे में मैं दो-चार शब्द कहना चाहता हूँ। हमने देखा है कि अरिजिनल बिल के अनुसार सिर्फ दो स्तरों पर ही, अर्थात् ग्राम पंचायत और ब्लॉक पंचायत के जरिये हमारे पंचायत शासन की व्यवस्था रखी गई थी। अब सेलेक्ट कमिटी द्वारा यह शासन ३ स्तरों के जरिये चलाने की, अर्थात् ग्राम पंचायत, आंचलिक या ब्लॉक पंचायत और महकुमा परिषद के जरिये पंचायत शासन की व्यवस्था की गई है। अध्यक्ष महोदय ! शासन क्षमता का विवर्द्धिकरण करना ही पंचायत राज का उद्देश्य है। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि कम से कम स्तर पर ही पंचायत शासन की व्यवस्था लेनी चाहिये। लोकल बोर्ड शासन का हमें अनुभव है। एक एक लोकल बोर्ड के जरिये ही एक एक बड़े जिले का अकेले ही चलाने का अनुभव हमें है। इस हालतमें तीन स्तरों पर पंचायत शासन की व्यवस्था करने में कोई उचित युक्ति नहीं देख रहा हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि दो ही स्तरों पर हमारी पंचायतों के कार्य संपादन करने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। ये स्तर होने चाहिये, ग्राम पंचायत और महकुमा परिषद। कार्य को सुचारूपसे चलाने के लिये ग्राम पंचायत ही और उसकी

एक कार्यकारिणी समिति हो। इसी तरह महकुमापरिषद एक जेनरल बडि हो और उसकी भी कोई कार्यकारिणी समिति होनी चाहिये। जैसे हमारी विधानसभा है और एक मंत्रीमंडल है उसी तरह ग्रामपंचायत और महकुमापरिषद की भी कोई कार्यकारिणी समिति हो। इस समिति को काफी अधिकार भी रहना चाहिये। अगर हम ३ स्तरों पर ही यह कार्य करने की व्यवस्था करें तो मैं यही समझता हूँ कि हमारी शक्ति के अप-व्यय मात्र है। इस तरह हमारी शक्ति का अपव्यय न करके हम ठोस कार्य करें और सिर्फ दो ही स्तरों पर पंचायत शासन की व्यवस्था करें।

इसके साथ साथ मैं यह भी सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी पंचायतों को अधिकाधिक क्षमता प्रदान करनी चाहिये। यह क्षमता कार्यकारिणी समिति की होनी चाहिये।

इस सेलेक्ट कमिटी के सुझावों के अनुसार उदद्योग क्षेत्रों में (इण्डस्ट्रियल एरिया) पंचायत शासन लागू नहीं किया जायगा। इससे हमें एक बहुत बड़ी दिक्कत का सामना करना पड़ेगा। इस बारे में मैं सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। उदद्योग क्षेत्रों में पंचायत-शासन की व्यवस्था न करना हमारे लिये अनुचित होगा। क्योंकि ऐसा करने से हम अपने राज्य की जनता के एक बहुत बड़े अंश को सस्ते व्यय से वंचित करेंगे। कलकत्ता, बम्बई या कानपुर जैसे बड़े बड़े स्थानों के उदद्योग क्षेत्र (इण्डस्ट्रियल एरिया) शहरों से बिल्कुल सटा हुआ है, और आवश्यक होने पर वहाँ के श्रमिक या अन्यान्य लोग आसानी से शहर आ सकते हैं और कचहरी में अपने मुकद्दमे की पैरवी कर सकते हैं। किन्तु यह बात हमारे राज्य के उदद्योग क्षेत्र के लिये लागू नहीं हो सकती। हमारे राज्य के उदद्योग क्षेत्र शहर से बहुत दूर। कहीं कहीं ३०।४० मील की दूरी पर ये उदद्योग क्षेत्र हैं। इस हालत में न्याय के लिए शहर आना और अपने मुकद्दमों की पैरवी कराना इन क्षेत्रों के वासिन्दे विशेषकर हमारे गरीब श्रमिकों के लिये बड़ा कठिन है। इस हालत में यही समझता हूँ कि टि गाड़ें एरियाज और अन्यान्य उदद्योग क्षेत्रों में पंचायत राज के शासन की व्यवस्था लागू होनी चाहिये। इण्डस्ट्रियल एरियाज के श्रमिकों को पंचायत शासन और सस्ते न्याय की सुविधा से सरकार को वंचित नहीं करना चाहिये।

उत्तरप्रदेश तथा अन्य प्रदेशों में भी पंचायत शासन की व्यवस्था हुई है। किन्तु वहाँ की जनता का इसका अनुभव क्या है, जनता में इसकी क्या प्रतिक्रिया हो रही है इसका अनुभव भी मुझे है। अगर हमारे राज्य के पंचायत संवन्धी कानून में वैसी ही त्रुटियाँ रह जाँय तो यहाँ भी वही प्रतिक्रिया होनेवाली है। अभी हाल ही में उत्तरप्रदेश के एक सज्जन यहाँ आये थे और वे मुझसे कह रहे थे कि उत्तरप्रदेश में पंचायत राज के बदले गुंडे राज की स्थापना हुई है। वहाँ की जनता की इस संवन्ध में यही प्रतिक्रिया है यही भावना वहाँ के लोगों में है। एक त्रुटि के कारण ही यह भावना लोगों में हो रही है। यह त्रुटि है कि वहाँ इस कानून के अनुसार जो कोई भी पंचायत के सदस्य हो सकता है। इसलिये मेरा सुझाव यह है कि किसी पंचायत के सदस्य चुने जाने के लिये किसी तरह की योग्यता निर्धारित होनी चाहिये। शिक्षा या पढ़ाई-लिखाई की कोई योग्यता पंचायत के सदस्य चुने जाने के लिये रखनी चाहिये। नहीं तो, इसका परिणाम यही होगा कि किसी अंचल के क्षमतापन्न व्याक्तियों के जरिये तथा उनकी सहायता से बुरे आदमी अर्थात् जिन्हें वास्तव में जनता नहीं चाहती है, वैसे आदमी पंचायत के सदस्य चुने जायेंगे। यहाँ तक कि यह भी शंका की जाती है कि गुंडे प्रकृति के आदमी पंचायत के सदस्य चुने जाने का डर है। इस तरह के (वेड एलेमेन्ट्स) बुरे आदमी को पंचायत में आने से रोकने के लिए इस तरह की योग्यता का रखना बड़ा आवश्यक है। अलावा इसके पंचायत शासन में न्यायदान तथा न्यायशासन की व्यवस्था है। क्योंकि पंचायत के सदस्य पंचायती अदालत के सदस्य चुने जा सकते हैं इसलिए ऐसे आदमी ही पंचायत

के सदस्य चुने जाने चाहिये जिन्हें कानून को समझने उसके अनुसार उचित फैसला करने की योग्यता हो। इसी तरह पंचायत शासन को सुचारूप्रकार से चलाने के लिये यह व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये कि किसी पंचायत के सदस्य चुने जाने के लिये कम-से-कम कोई योग्यता, अर्थात् शिक्षा या पढ़ाई-लिखाई की योग्यता होनी चाहिये। अगर वैसा न हो, तो हमारे पंचायत शासन में भी बुरे आदमी, यहाँ तक कि गूंडे प्रकृति के आदमी के चुने जाने के और पंचायत शासन का असफल होने का डर रह जायेगा। उस हालत में हमारे गणतंत्र को ही बहुत बड़ा धक्का पहुँचेगा। इसलिये इस तरह की योग्यता का निर्धारण करना पंचायत शासन की सफलता के लिये बहुत आवश्यक है। आशा है सरकार इस ओर ध्यान देगी।

वर्तमान बिल में रिजर्भेशन की व्यवस्था रखी गई है। हमारे विधान के अनुसार सिडुल काण्टस एण्ड सिडुल ट्राईब्स की रिजर्भेशन की व्यवस्था है। किंतु यह रिजर्भेशन बहुत ही जल्द कुछ ही दिनों में खत्म होनेवाला है। इसलिये पंचायत के विधान में इस तरह की रिजर्भेशन के चालू रखने की कोई युक्ति नहीं देख रहा हूँ। इसलिये मैं रिजर्भेशन की इस व्यवस्था का विरोध करता हूँ।

सेलेक्ट कमिटी द्वारा प्रदत्त बिल के १८ पेज में यह व्यवस्था रखी गई है कि किसी पंचायत के प्रेसिडेंट और भाईस-प्रेसिडेंट को हटाने के लिये तीन-पंचमांश मताधिक्य की आवश्यकता होगी। इस व्यवस्था का भी परिवर्तन होना चाहिये। मैं समझता हूँ कि प्रेसिडेंट या भाईस-प्रेसिडेंट को हटाने के लिये दो-तीहाई मताधिक्य की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये।

Mr. SPEAKER : आप किस बारे में बोल रहे हैं ?

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA (Patharkandi) :

प्रेसिडेंट और भाईस प्रेसिडेंट को हटाने के बारे में पेज १८ में यह व्यवस्था है कि किसी प्रेसिडेंट या भाईस-प्रेसिडेंट को उस पद से हटाने के लिए तीन-पंचमांश मताधिक्य की आवश्यकता होगी। मेरा सुझाव यह है कि इसके लिए दो-तीहाई मताधिक्य की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। मेरा मतलब यह है कि अगर किसी पंचायत में १५० सदस्य हैं तो प्रेसिडेंट को या भाईस-प्रेसिडेंट को हटाने के लिए १०० सदस्य के मत का आवश्यक होगा। किंतु मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह संख्या ६० हो, नहीं तो हमेशा के लिए एक रिस्क रह जायगा।

नाम परिवर्तन के क्षेत्र में भी हमें बड़ा कन्फ्यूजन हो रहा है। मिसाल के तौर-पर मैं पेज ६८ की ओर आप का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

यहाँ आंचलिक फण्ड और गाँवपंचायत फण्ड की व्यवस्था है। पहले यह गाँव-पंचायत फण्ड ही था।

Mr. SPEAKER : ये तो Consequential Charges हैं।

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA : जी हाँ !

Mr. SPEAKER : सेलेक्ट कमिटी ने इसमें जो तरमीम पेश किए हैं उन्हीं पर आप बोल सकते हैं और कोई तबदिली करना चाहते हैं तो उसपर बोल सकते हैं और सुझाव दे सकते हैं।

Shri BISWANATH UPADHYAYA : जी हाँ ! मुझे जो जो सुझाव देन थे मैं दे चुका हूँ। आशा है सदन के माननीय सदस्य इस बारे में ध्यान दगे और उचित व्यवस्था करेंगे।

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur):

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আজি সদনত বাচনি কমিটিয়ে আমাৰ আগত যিখন পঞ্চায়ত বিল আনিছে সেই বিল সমৰ্থন কৰি মই দুআষাৰ মান কবলৈ উঠিছো। আজি আমাৰ সমাজৰ অৱস্থা আৰু দেশৰ সকলো অৱস্থালৈ চাই মোৰ মনেৰে বাচনি কমিটিয়ে যি খন বিল আনিছে তাতকৈ ভাল পঞ্চায়ত বিল হোৱা অসম্ভৱ। আজি দেখাত এই বিলৰ ওপৰত বাচনি কমিটিয়ে যিবিলাক নতুন শুধৰনি কৰিছে সেই বিলাক আমাৰ দেশৰ অসাধাৰণ মনোমত হৈছে। সেই কাৰণে এই বিলত বাচনী কমিটিয়ে যিবিলাক কথা আনিছে তাৰ ভিতৰত মানান্য কেইটামান সৰু ছৰা ভুল মোৰ চকুত পৰিছে। এই বিলখন তিনি খলপীয়া হলেও আচলতে ইয়াত ২টা খাপহে হৈছে। তাত সভা আৰু গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত একোটা বস্তু। মহকুমা পৰিষদ এখন উপদেষ্টা পৰিষদহে নাত্ৰ হৈছে। মহকুমা পৰিষদক অধিক ক্ষমতা দিছে কিন্তু কাৰ্য্যকৰী ক্ষমতা নাই।

38. Duties and functions of Mahkuma Parishad.— (1) The Mohkuma Parishad shall perform the following duties namely:—

(a) Scrutiny and approval of the budgets of the Anchalik Panchayats in accordance with the directives issued by the State Government.

Provided that if the budget is not approved within one month of receipt it shall be taken as approved.

অৰ্থাৎ বাজেট Scrutiny কৰিবলৈ দিছে কিন্তু এমাহৰ ভিতৰত scrutiny নহলে বিল পাচ হৈ যাব পাৰে। এই হিচাবে মহকুমা পৰিষদৰ ওপৰত কোনো ক্ষমতাকে দিয়া নাই। ইয়াক মাত্ৰ Advisory Board হিচাবে ৰখা হৈছে। এনেকুৱা কথাও শুনা যায় যে আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তক বেচি ক্ষমতা দিয়াৰ কাৰণে গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ ক্ষমতা কমি গৈছে। আৰু শুনা যায় গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ financial power নাই কিন্তু যি বাজহ সংগ্ৰহ হ'ব তাৰ ১৫% আৰু Local rate ৰ সমুদায় পয়ছা গাঁও পঞ্চায়তক দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা। লোকেল বেট বাইজৰ শতকৰা ২৫ ভাগ হ'ব আৰু বাজহৰ গাঁও শতকৰা ১৫ ভাগ গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ ভাগত পৰিব।

গতিকে মোটামোটিকৈ আমি দেখিছো গোটেই বাজহৰ প্ৰায় শতকৰা ৪০ ভাগ বাজহ গাঁও পঞ্চায়তক দিয়া হৈছে।

তাৰ পিচত যদি গাঁও পঞ্চায়তক দিয়া ক্ষমতালৈ চাও তেন্তে দেখো যে গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত কাম কৰাৰ কাৰণে তেওঁলোকক উপযুক্ত ক্ষমতা দিয়া হৈছে।

গতিকে মই পঞ্চায়তৰ বিভ্ৰমসম্পৰ্কে ইয়াকেই কলো।

তাৰ পিচত কোনোৱে গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত বিলাক সৰু সৰু হৈছে বুলি কৈছে। আইন অনুসাবে একোখন গাঁও সভাত ২১১ হাজাৰ মানুহৰ মানুহৰ গোট এটা থাকিব। কিন্তু আচলতে এইটো একো সৰু গোট নহয়। একৰকমে এইটোও ডাঙৰহে হৈছে বুলি ক'ব পাৰি, ১৯৪৮ চনৰ গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত আইন মতে প্ৰাইমেৰী পঞ্চায়ত প্ৰতিষ্ঠাৰ বাবে ১০ বছৰে এই ২১১০ হাজাৰ ৩ হাজাৰ মানুহৰ একোটা গোট তৈয়াৰ কৰাৰ আছিল। গতিকে, সেই গোট হিচাবে কাম কৰিবলৈ মানুহ অভাৱ। আগৰ আইন মতে যি গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত আছিল তাত লোক সংখ্যা ১০ হাজাৰৰ পৰা ২৫ হাজাৰলৈকে আছিল আৰু আমাৰ অসমীয়াত এটা কথা আছে নাছো নহয় জিজিও নহয়। অৰ্থাৎ আনুপাতিক ভাবে ডাঙৰ হোৱাত কিছুমান

voluntary কাম কৰিবলৈ অকম হয়— ইয়াৰ activity একোখন মৌজাৰ ভিতৰতে আবদ্ধ থাকে গতিকে কোনো ডাঙৰ কামতো actively জোৰ দিব নোৱাৰে। গতিকে এতিয়া তাৰ ঠাইত ২। হেজাৰ বা ৩ হেজাৰ মানুহৰ যি পঞ্চায়ত হৈছে সেইটো বেচি ভাল হৈছে। ইয়াত আনাৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ সম্বন্ধ আছে।

আমি বৰ সন্তুষ্ট হৈছো যে আমাৰ গাঁৱলীয়া ৰাইজক ইয়াৰ জৰিয়তে বেচি দায়ীত্ব দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা হৈছে। আমাৰ ৰাপুজীৰ স্বাধীনতাৰ প্ৰধান উদ্দেশ্য এইটোৱে আছিল। স্বাধীনতা মানে বগা মানুহ কেইটাক খেদি ক'লা মানুহেৰে শাসন তত্ত্ব পৰিচালনা কৰা নহয়। আমাৰ শাসন ক্ষমতা কেন্দ্ৰীভূত নকৰি সেই ক্ষমতা প্ৰত্যেক গাঁৱৰ প্ৰত্যেক গোটে লব লাগে সকলোৱে নিজে নিজৰ দায়ীত্ব পালন কৰাৰ সুবিধা পাই শাসনৰ অংশ গ্ৰহণ কৰাত তৎপৰ হ'ব লাগে।

এয়ে হল বৰ্ত্তমান পঞ্চায়ত আইনৰ মূল উদ্দেশ্য। ইয়াতকৈ ভাল আইন আমাৰ বৰ্ত্তমান সমাজ ব্যবস্থাত তৈয়াৰ কৰা সম্ভৱ নহয়।

বৰ্ত্তমানৰ পঞ্চায়ত আইনখন দুখলগীয়া হৈছে। গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত আৰু আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত। ইয়াত আঞ্চলিক হিচাবে গোট হোৱা নাই। আনাৰ গোটেই ভাৰত-বৰ্ষত N.E.S. ব্লকবিলাক একোটা গোট হিচাবে তৈয়াৰ হ'ব ধৰিছে। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা একোটা সুকীয়া ধৰণৰ Unit হোৱাৰ ব্যবস্থা হৈছে।

N.E.S. ব্লকৰ জৰিয়তে যি গোট হৈছে। সেইটো সুন্দৰ ব্যবস্থা হৈছে আমি দেখিছো একোখন জিলাত একোটা মহকুমা একোটা গোট হিচাবে ধৰিও একোটা লোকেনবোৰ্ড বা একোটা স্কুল বোৰ্ডে সূচাৰুৰূপে কাম কৰিব নোৱাৰে। আজি গুৱাহাটী মহকুমা ডাঙৰ হৈছে বুলি বহুতে দুটা মহকুমা কৰাৰ পৰামৰ্শ দিছে।

তেনেকৈ স্কুল বোৰ্ডও দুটা কৰাৰ পৰামৰ্শ দিছে। গতিকে বৰ্ত্তমান ব্যবস্থাত যিবিলাক N.E.S. ব্লকৰ গোট হৈছে তাৰ জৰিয়তে আমাৰ উন্নয়নৰ কাম সূচাৰুৰূপে কৰাত আমি সুবিধা পাম, ইয়াৰ একোটা গোটত ৫০ বা ৬০ হাজাৰ মানুহ খকাটো যুক্তিযুক্ত হৈছে।

এই আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত কৰাত দুটা পক্ষৰ পৰা ভাল হৈছে। আমাৰ এটা ব্লক পঞ্চায়তৰ ভিতৰত এটা ভাল Executive Machinery কৰাত সুবিধা হৈছে। তাৰ পাচত Overseer আদি Technical মানুহ বিলাক ৰাখি বহুখী উন্নয়নৰ কামবিলাক কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা হ'ব।

ইয়াৰ জৰিয়তে যিবিলাক Unit হ'ব তাৰ দ্বাৰা গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত বিলাকৰ ভাল তত্ত্বাবধান লোৱাৰ সুবিধা হ'ব। আজি ডিব্ৰুগৰ মহকুমা পৰিষদে ঠিকমতে একো কাম কৰিব নোৱাৰে। এই গোট বিলাকত উন্নয়নমূলক কাম কৰিবলৈ বেচি সুবিধা পাব। এই আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত বিলাকক সাধাৰণ কিছুমান কামৰহে ভাল দিছে, যিবিলাক আমাৰ ভাল আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তক দিয়াৰ বাহিৰে আন উপায় নাই।

আমি জানো যে একোখন গাঁৱৰ ভিতৰত ১১২ মাইল বাস্তা হ'ব বুলি এই গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ বাস্তা ১১২ মাইলৰ বেচি এখন গাঁও পঞ্চায়তৰ ভিতৰত নপৰিব। সাধাৰণতে আমাৰ বাস্তা বিলাক ৫৬।১০ মাইল পৰ্য্যন্ত। এই বিলাক কামৰ দায়িত্ব আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তক দিয়াৰ বাহিৰে উপায় নাই, গতিকে দিয়াতো উচিত হৈছে আৰু মই ভাল বুলি কৈছো। তাৰ পাচত, আগতে যেতিয়া প্ৰথম এই আইন মদনলৈ অনা হৈছিল তেতিয়া আমি দেখিবলৈ পাইছিলো যে নতুন পঞ্চায়তৰ ব্যবস্থা চৰকাৰী ইঞ্চিপৰিৱেচন বেচি আছিল আৰু তাত সাধাৰণ মহকুমা পৰিষদত D.C.,

আগতে আছিল whereas it is expendient to control and amount of loss relating to Local Self-Government with the rural areas of the State of Assam with a view to make better provision for rural administration, reconstruction and development.

সেইখিনি গুচাই তাৰ ঠাইত দিলে Establishing panchayats and investing them with such powers and authority as will be necessary.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Select Committee have changed, in place of 'Local Self-Government' they have used the word 'Self-Government'. They have kept both the words, 'Self-Government' and 'Local-Self-Government'. There is no basic difference between the change made by the Select Committee and the original Bill.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari West): লোকেল চেম্বল গভণ মেণ্ট শব্দটো relative term. কোনো কোনো দৃষ্টি কোনৰ পৰা.....

Mr. SPEAKER: My intention in referring to this is to draw the attention of the hon. Member that when we refer to Select Committee our scope of discussion become limited to subject matter of discussion of this House, but when the difference is pointed out about the original bill and the recommendation of the Select Committee, that difference must be of a substantial nature but the difference between, 'Local-Self-Government' and 'Self-Government' is not so wide.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA: মই 'Self-Government' শব্দটোৰ ব্যাখ্যা কৰা কৰ খুজিছো। এই শব্দটোত নানা ধৰণৰ অৰ্থ হ'ব পাৰে।

মই কৈছো যে মূল বিলত Reconstruction and Development শব্দ প্ৰয়োগ কৰিবৰ কাৰণে যেনে ধৰণেৰ স্বায়ত্ত্ব শাসনৰ গাঁঠনি কথা কোৱা আছিল এতিয়া যিটো অংশ লগ লগায় দিলে তাৰ ফলিত আগৰ পাতনিৰ মূল অৰ্থৰ অভাৱ হ'ল। আৰু এটা কথা হৈছে যে 'for better functioning of Local-Self-Government' যি ধৰণৰ ক্ষমতা ৰাইজৰ হাতত দিব লাগিছিল সেই ক্ষমতা এতিয়া ওপৰৰ প্ৰশাসনীয় মহলতে ৰখা হৈছে ফলত কেতিয়া বা ৰাইজৰ লগত সংঘৰ্ষ হোৱাৰ আশংকা।

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the change was affected in conformity with the directive principles of on constitution. The allege changed on the side of the Government was made for the programme of the State.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA: সংবিধানৰ লগত খাপ খাবলৈ ললে এই কথা থকা উচিত আছিল। গণতান্ত্ৰিক চৰকাৰৰ সাধাৰণতে পৰিবৰ্ত্তনশীল। গতিকে বৰ্ত্তমান চৰকাৰে হয়তো কেই বছৰ মান পিচত বদলিৰ পাৰে। সেই বাবে এই দৰে জোৰা তালি মৰা কাম ঠিক হোৱা নাই।

বাচনি কমিটিয়ে কিয় "গাওঁ পঞ্চায়তৰ" সলনি "গাওঁ সভা" নাম দিলে মই বুজিব পৰা নাই। "পঞ্চায়ত" শব্দটো ইতিহাসৰ লগত জড়িত থকা শব্দ। ইয়াৰ গুৰুত্ব গাঁৱলীয়া ৰাইজে সহজে উপলব্ধি কৰে আৰু ৰায় গ্ৰহণ কৰিবলৈ পিচ নোহোৱকে। ইয়াৰ আগতেও প্ৰাইমেৰী পঞ্চায়তবোৰ চলি আছিল সেই "পঞ্চায়ত" শব্দটো সলনি কৰাৰ কোনো প্ৰয়োজন নাই। সেই কাৰণে গাওঁ সভাৰ ঠাইত গাওঁ পঞ্চায়ত ভাল আছিল। এই বিলখন মই গ্ৰহণ কৰিব পৰা নাই।

গাঁৱৰ বাইজক যেতিয়া অধিক ক্ষমতা দিয়াৰ কথা উঠিছে, সেই ক্ষমতা সম্পূৰ্ণ ৰূপে দিয়া উচিত আছিল। কিন্তু এতিয়া যি সাল সলনি কৰা হৈছে তাতো উল্লেখ যোগ্য ভাবে বিশেষ ক্ষমতা দিয়া হোৱা নাই। (উল্লেখ যোগ্য কথা হৈছে চেক্ৰেটাৰী সম্বন্ধে) আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত আৰু মহকুমা পৰিষদৰ চেক্ৰেটাৰী চৰকাৰৰ দ্বাৰা নিয়োজিত হ'ব। সেই দৰে নিয়োজিত হলে আমাৰ যি অভিজ্ঞতা হৈছে তাৰ পৰা ক'ব পাৰো যে তেওঁ লোকে বাইজৰ লগত সহযোগ ৰাখি কাম নকৰিবৰ পুৰ। আশঙ্কা আছে। যিহেতু তেওঁলোক চৰকাৰৰ দ্বাৰা নিয়োজিত আৰু তেওঁলোকৰ প্ৰমোচন আদিও চৰকাৰৰ হাততে, সেই কাৰণে তেওঁলোকে চৰকাৰক সন্তুষ্ট কৰাৰেহে বেচি সজাগত বাইজৰ পিনে বেচি মন-কাণ নিদিয়ৈ। তেনে ঘটনা বৰ্তমানৰ পঞ্চায়ত সমূহতো ঘটিছে আৰু সেই বাবেই উন্নয়ন আচনিৰ কাম বোৰ অৰ্দ্ধ সম্পূৰ্ণ ৰূপে সমাধা কৰিব পৰা নাই। গণতন্ত্ৰৰ মূল কথা মতেও চেক্ৰেটাৰী অথবা অফিচাৰ বোৰৰ কাম পৰিদৰ্শন কৰা আৰু ভাল কাম কৰিলে উন্নতিৰ পথত আগুৱাই নিয়া বা বেয়া কাম কৰিলে কামৰ পৰা আঁতৰাব পৰা ক্ষমতা বাইজৰ হাতত থাকিব লাগে। গতিকেই চেক্ৰেটাৰীৰ পঞ্চায়তৰ ভেটিৰ দ্বাৰা নিয়োগ কৰিব পৰা হ'ব লাগে আৰু বেয়া কাম থাকিলে আঁতৰাব পাৰিব লাগে।

এই বিল খনত টেক্স আদায় কৰিবৰ কাৰণে অধিক ক্ষমতা দিয়া হৈছে। আমাৰ জনসাধাৰণৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা ক্ৰমে বেয়াৰ ফালে গৈছে। জনসাধাৰণে বৰ্তমানৰ টেক্স খাজনাকে দিয়া টান হৈ পৰিছে, তেনে স্থলত পঞ্চায়তকো টেক্স লগাবলৈ ক্ষমতা দিয়ানোৰ বোধেৰে ভাল হোৱা নাই।

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2 P.M.

After lunch

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, কোনো কোনোৱে নিজৰ সুবিধাৰ বাবে মাটি বিক্ৰি কৰিব পাৰে। কিন্তু গাঁৱৰ দুখীয়া মানুহে মাটি বেচে আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা বেয়া হোৱা কাৰণে। ইয়াতো টেক্স লগোৱা ক্ষমতা পোৱাৰ অজুহাত লৈ গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে গাঁওপঞ্চায়তৰ যোগেদি দুখীয়া মানুহৰ ওপৰত টেক্স বহোৱাৰ সুবিধা ৰাখিছে।

টেক্স লগোৱাৰ ক্ষমতা গাঁওপঞ্চায়তক ইমান বেচি দিয়া হৈছে যে গভৰ্ণমেণ্টে নিজে যিবিলাকত টেক্স লগাবলৈ সন্দ্বেচ কৰে আৰু যিহত পাবলৈ বাকী আছে সেই-বিলাক গাঁওপঞ্চায়তৰ জৰিয়তে লগোৱাৰ দিহা কৰিছে। যদি গাঁওপঞ্চায়তে নলগায় তেন্তে সেইবিলাক আঞ্চলিক নাইবা মহকুমা পঞ্চায়তে লগাবৰ নিৰ্দেশ দিব। সেই নিৰ্দেশ গাঁও পঞ্চায়তে মানি ল'ব লাগিব।

গাঁওপঞ্চায়তক মাটি বিক্ৰি আদি এই সব বিষয়ত টেক্স লগাবলৈ মহকুমা তথা চৰকাৰৰ পক্ষৰ পৰা বাধ্য কৰিব।

গাঁওপঞ্চায়তক যেনেকৈ টেক্স লগোৱাৰ ক্ষমতা দিয়া হৈছে তাৰ পৰা গাঁৱৰ দুখীয়াৰ ওপৰত টেক্সৰ বোজা বেচি হ'ব। যোৰ বোধেৰে গাঁৱলীয়া দুখীয়া খেতিয়কক ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা অন্যায় কৰা হৈছে।

তাৰ পিচত, গাঁৱৰ পানী-যোগানৰ কাৰণে টেক্স লগাইছে। এই কোনো বৰেচনাপূৰ্ণ ব্যৱস্থা হোৱা নাই। আনফালে যদি কোনো মাটিৰ মালিকে মাটিত খেতি

নকৰি পেলাই থয় তেন্তে আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তে মালিকৰ ওপৰত টেক্স লগাব পাৰে।
 প্ৰথমে আমি ভাবিছিলো যে Select Committee এ এই Clause টো উঠাই দিব।
 কিন্তু নিদিলে। যদি কোনোৱে বোগ্ৰস্থ হৈ একেৰাহে দুবছৰ খেতি কৰিব নোৱাৰে
 তেন্তে তেওঁৰ ওপৰত টেক্স লাগিব।

Mr. SPEAKER : ইয়াত Without any reason আছে Cultivable land laying fallow for two consecutive years. Without any reason বুলি আছে।

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West): সেইটো এট
 Vague কথা, তাৰ পিচত এই টেক্স realise কৰাত গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত আৰু আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তৰ
 ভিতৰত গুণগোল লাগিব পাৰে। যেতিয়া Dulek Taxation ৰ ব্যৱস্থা বৈ গৈছে তাৰ
 পৰা বেহাই পোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা ৰাখিছে সচা কিন্তু বেহাই পাবলৈ কিমান যে আবেদন
 নিবেদন আহি থাকিব লগীয়া হব তাৰ বাবে গাঁৱৰ মানুহৰ বিলৈ নোহোৱা হব।
 মোৰ বোধেৰে পঞ্চায়ত আইন খন আৰু তাৰ ধাৰাবোৰ সহজ সবল হব লাগিছিল।
 মোটৰ ওপৰত এই বিলত বহু আসোৱাহ বৈ গৈছে।

টেক্সৰ যি Provision বৈ গল তাৰপৰা বুজা যায় চৰকাৰে দুখীয়া জনসাধাৰণৰ
 ওপৰত প্ৰত্যক্ষ ভাবে নকৰি পৰোক্ষ ভাবে কৰ ধাৰ্য্য কৰাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিছে।

তৃতীয় Chapter ত যিবিলাক নতুন নতুন Administrative ক্ষমতা দিছে
 তাৰ কিছুমান Clause ৰ সম্পূৰ্ণ ব্যাখ্যা নোহোৱাকৈ বৈ গৈছে। যেনে Land
 Management—ই মাত্ৰ দুটা শব্দ। ইয়াত Settlement of land, Frag-
 mentation of land holding ইত্যাদি—আছে নে নাই?

আমাৰ কৃষিয়েই হল গাঁৱৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থাৰ মূল।

Mr. SPEAKER : I think these will go by their dictionary meaning.

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA : যিহওক চাব, এইবিলাকৰ এটা স্পষ্ট
 ধাৰণা ইয়াত ফুটি উঠা নাই। ইয়াৰপৰা বহু গোলমাল হোৱাৰ আশংকা আছে।

যি সাধাৰণ ক্ষমতা দিয়া হৈছে তাৰ দ্বাৰা অৰ্থনৈতিক ক্ষেত্ৰত গাঁৱলীয়া ৰাইজে
 নিজে পঞ্চায়ত গঠন কৰি নিজক আওঁৱাই নিব পৰা অৱস্থাটোৰ সৃষ্টি কৰা হোৱা নাই।
 বৰ্তমান পঞ্চায়ত এটা আগৰ সৰু লোকেলবোৰ্ডতকৈ কোনোওনে উন্নত হোৱা নাই গতিকে
 আমি ইমান দিনে কৰা আশা পূৰ্ণ নহল—

গাঁও পঞ্চায়ত আৰু আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত যিটো set up কৰা হৈছে তাৰ দ্বাৰা
 জনসাধাৰণে যি আশা কৰিছে সি পূৰণ হোৱা টান। কাৰণ ওপৰত আমোলাত্মিক
 শাসনৰ প্ৰভাৱ ৰাখি Ex-officio Secretary আদি আমোলাত্মিক চৰকাৰী বিষয়া-
 বোৰক ভিতৰত সন্মুখাই দি গনতন্ত্ৰৰ কথা কোৱাটো প্ৰহসন মাত্ৰ। চিলেক্ট কমিটিৰ
 তিনিজন সদস্যৰ যি decending note দিছে। অন্যতম সদস্য ভট্টাচাৰ্যী ডাঙৰীয়াৰ
 মতে তিনিখলপীয়া গঠনৰ ঠাইত দুখলপীয়া হব লাগিছিল। এতিয়া সেই বিষয়ে মই অলপ
 কম। মোৰ মনেৰে আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত খাপটো অনাবশ্যকীয়। গাঁও সভাৰ পৰিষদ বহল
 কৰা হলে আৰু মহকুমা পঞ্চায়তৰ লগত পোনপটীয়া সংযোগ ৰখা হলে আমাৰ আৰ্থিক
 আৰু প্ৰশাসনীয় কাৰ্য্যত বেচি আগ বাঢ়ি যাব পাৰিলোহেতেন। কিন্তু ইয়াৰ মাজত
 আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়তৰ যিটো পৰ্য্যায় ৰখা হৈছে সেইটো ব্যৱস্থা ভাল হোৱা নাই।

তাৰোপৰি চাব, আদালত সম্বন্ধে মোৰ অলপ বক্তব্য আছে। পঞ্চায়ত আদালতৰ ফৌজদাৰী বিচাৰৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত ডাঙৰ আসোৱাহ দেখা যায়। বিলত যি ধৰণে কোৱা হৈছে ৩৭৯-৩৮০ ধাৰা অনুযায়ী হোৱা চুৰি ঘটনাৰ ৫০ টকাৰ ওপৰ মূল্য হলে সেই কেচ পঞ্চায়ত আদালতত হ'ব নোৱাৰে। কেচৰ ধৰণৰ (gravity of the offence) গুৰুত্বৰ ওপৰত জোৰ দিয়া নাই। কিছুমান কেচ গাঁৱত হৈ থাকে যিবিলাকৰ গুৰুত্ব তুলনাত মূল্য বেচি হয় অথচ সেই বিলাক কেচ পঞ্চায়ত আদালততে বিচাৰ হ'ব পাৰে কিন্তু সেই কেচ যদি ৫০ টকাৰ ওপৰ হয় তেনেহলে সেই কেচ ওপৰ কটলৈ যাব লাগিব। ধৰক গৰু চুৰিৰ কেচ গাঁৱত প্ৰায়ে হৈ থাকে, কিন্তু গৰুৰ মূল্য আজিকালি ২।৩ শটকা সেই কাৰণে সেই কেচ পঞ্চায়ত আদালতত নহ'ব কিন্তু গুৰুত্বটো বৰ গভীৰ নহয় তেনেকৈয়ে চাইকেল চুৰি ইত্যাদি কেচ বোৰৰ বা সাধাৰণ চুৰি কেচ বস্তৰ মূল্যৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি গুৰুত্বৰ ওপৰত নিৰ্ভৰ নকৰাটো উচিত হোৱা নাই। আনি জানো Indian Penal Codeৰ ধাৰা বোৰ বুজা বৰ টান, গতিকে গাঁৱৰ মানুহৰ পক্ষে এই বোৰ দুৰ্বোধ্য হৈ পৰিব। সেই কাৰণে মই কওঁ যে এই বিষয়ত value ত কৈ gravity of offence ব ওপৰত বেচি প্ৰাধান্য দিয়া উচিত আছিল।

Voting ৰ সম্বন্ধে মোৰ মত হল যে পঞ্চায়তৰ হাত তুলি ভোট দিয়াৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰাতকৈ secret ভোটদাৰ ব্যৱস্থা থকা হলে ভাল আছিল। এই হাত তুলি ভোট দিয়া প্ৰথা কৰাৰ কাৰণে বহু সময়ত ধনী আৰু ক্ষমতাৱান মানুহৰ প্ৰভাৱত বা ভয়তে বা তেওঁ লোকৰ পৰা টকা আদি ধৰি পোৱাৰ ভাল নাপালেও সেই ধৰণৰ leader সকলৰ উপস্থিতিত তেওঁলোকে leader হিচাবে ভোট দিব লগীয়া হয়। সেই কাৰণে এতিয়াও বৰ্তমানৰ পঞ্চায়তত আনি দেখিবলৈ পঁও বে বাইজে অন্তৰ্বেৰে ভাল নোপোৱা মানুহেই বাবে বাবে পঞ্চায়তৰ leader হৈ আছে। সেই কাৰণে মই কওঁ পঞ্চায়তত হাত তুলি দিয়াতকৈ secret voting ৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰা হলে ভাল আছিল। সেই কাৰণে মই rule maker সকলৰ এই বিষয়ে ভাবি চাবলৈ কওঁ যাতে হাত দাঙি ভোট দিয়া system ৰ ঠাইত secret voting system হয়।

যেতিয়া এই বিলখন গৃহীত হ'ব তেতিয়া গাঁৱলীয়া বাইজে বিশেষকৈ খেতিয়ক বাইজে মনতে ভাল নাপাব। আঞ্চলিক পঞ্চায়ত বিলাকত উপৰত Project officer বিলাকে যি ক্ষমতা পাব তাত বাইজে আৰু বেয়া পাব। এই বিষয়ে সদনত মাননীয় সদস্য সকলে বাইজৰেই মনোভাৱ প্ৰকাশ কৰিছে আৰু ইয়াত ক্ষমতা বিকেন্দ্ৰী-কৰণৰ যি ঘোষণা কৰা হৈছে সেইটো যথেষ্ট নহয় বৰং সি দেশৰ অগ্ৰগৰ পথত বাধা জন্মাব। গতিকে এই বেৰেজালি বিলাকৰ সালসালনি হোৱাৰ প্ৰয়োজন আছে আৰু এই বিলাক বাইজে বিচাৰে বা নয়ো বিচাৰে।

MAULAVI JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): Sir, we are very glad that this Panchayat Bill has after all come before the House and is going to be passed. We are also very glad to note that the Select Committee has made some amendments and has tried to give more power to the Primary and other Panchayats. Regarding appointment of secretary to the Gaon Panchayat they are able to give power to the Gaon Sabha, and under Section 3—page 19. But in the case of Anchalik Panchayat and the Mahkuma Parishad the power of appointment has been given to the Government. I do not know, Sir, when we have been able to put reliance on the less educated people in the villages for appointment of Secretary, why in the Anchalik Panchayat, where we are having educated people, it is not known why they are not given the power of appointment of executive officer or secretary. After all the presidents of the Anchalik Panchayat and also Mahkuma Parishad will have to manage their affairs with the help of the executive officer. Sir, you can imagine that if something is imposed

by the Government or from outside then the Anchalik Panchayat or the Mahkuma Parishad appears to have little control over their officers. In that respect the Select Committee has not given any consideration. The power of appointment of their officers should have been given to the Anchalik Panchayat and Mahkuma Parishad.

Regarding passing of no-confidence motion by 3/5ths majority, the Select Committee has given their opinion that in a meeting 1/3rd of the members should form a quorum. In the case of passing no-confidence motion it is not very clear whether 3/5th of those present in a meeting or forming a quorum of the total number of members of a Parishad or Panchayat are required. In a meeting though there may be a quorum, 3/5th of the total members present, may not be 1/3 of the total members of a Parishad or Panchayat and in that what is actually to be done it is not clear here. So, Sir, my suggestion will be that 1/3rd of the total number of members which form a quorum, should also be the number in case of no-confidence motion i.e., the majority of the total number of members of a Parishad or Panchayat—not the members present in a meeting—should have the power for passing such no-confidence motion.

Then Sir, regarding the administrative function and power of the Gaon Panchayat I like to suggest that in place of 'Dharam Shala'

Mr. SPEAKER: It means rest house.

MAULAVI JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): If that is so, then I have nothing to say.

Then I like to come to Adalat Panchayat. As far as I understand the Adalat has been given some power in the Bill. I do not think, so far village society is concerned, will be very safe to give them such power.

I have seen also that in the model bill copy of which was given to us the provision for establishment of Adalat was not there. There was a provision for constitution of a Conciliation Board. Now, we want to give power of adjudication is given to the village. When I go through this report it seems to me that in going through the provision for Adalat it was thought that, ours will be a highly cultured society in our villages. But you will find in our villages very small number of cultured and enlightened people thus it seems the village panchayat will be captured by the few cultured or enlightened people.

Sir, as I said in the resolution for Adhir Conciliation Board moved by the Leader of the Opposition to give the power of adjudication would mean many of our influential people to exercise their powers injudiciously, rather, arbitrarily. That will be the inclination in our village politics because we find in every village there are many parties and party fictions and they will try to usurp powers. So at the time giving this power to the panchayat when the Minister will annoyance an area, it would be better to go into the matter of the misuse of the power. A conciliation board would have served the purpose much better as it would try to bring conciliation because we find that in many cases the adjudication is a complicated matters. I find that there is a provision of appeal also on the ground of miscarriage of justice that any person aggrieved by any judgment of this Adalat has a right of appeal.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry to interrupt. Assembly rule 76 says:—
 “The debate on a motion that the Bill as reported by the Select-Committee be taken into consideration shall be confined to consideration of the report of the Committee and the matters referred to in that report or any alternative suggestions consistent with the principle of the Bill.”

Now, in this Report of the Select Committee, Adalat for Panchayat has been accepted and we may not go into it again.

MAULAVI JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): At the time of consideration stage before it went to the Select Committee, we were told that we would be given opportunity to give our suggestions after they go through the report of the Select Committee thoroughly.

There is a provision for examining witnesses, but there is no procedure for cross-examination of witnesses. I do not know when an appeal goes to the District Judge and the record goes along with it how the District Judge will arrive at his judgment if there is no record of cross-examination or test of witnesses.

Sir, miscarriage of justice is a vague term. And then also power of Civil suit. Even after the District Judge has finished his judgment the party can go for the second time to a Munsiff Court for a fresh suit. It has given scope of increasing litigation and nothing else. For petty cases amounting to Rs.250 or less, it would have been better if instead of adjudication by the Adalat, it would have been better to have a Conciliation Board. The limitation of litigation is extended by giving the right to go for the second time to a Munsiff Court even after the judgment of the District Judge. So, I would request the Government that in selecting the area and giving this power, we will very much like that the Adalat matter should be decided very carefully because people are in the know for things where at present conciliation board exists and any opinion conciliation board would be better for our villages.

With these words, I resume my seat.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local-Self Government):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to the hon. Members for the observation which they have made on the Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Panchayat Bill, 1958 as is presented to the House. Sir, I need not take much time of the House, very cogent arguments have been advanced by my Friend, Shri Bora, against the arguments that instead of 3-tier system there should be only 2-tier system. In fact, as the hon. Members will see, there are only 2 tiers system because the Mohkuma Parishad is nothing more than an advisory body with no executive powers and functions. I entirely agree that the executive authority should go to the lowest body, i. e., the Gaon Panchayat, and as the hon. Members will realise, the Select Committee has given the maximum authority in so far as the development of villages is concerned to the Gaon Panchayat and I do not share the apprehension of the hon. Members when they stated that the Gaon Panchayat has not been given complete authority and complete powers. In fact, there are provisions under which, apart from the authority which is to be entrusted in the work of development of areas, the

work of an administrative nature can also be entrusted to the Gaon Panchayat. Take for instance, in some form or the other, some judicial function has also been transferred to the Village Authority and as time goes on and as this Gaon Panchayat gathers experience, it may be possible for us to transfer even the administrative authority in certain matters to this Gaon Panchayat. I, therefore, do not share the fear or doubt entertained by some of the hon. Members that the decentralisation of authority is not complete and that these people in the villages will not have the full powers to deal with matters which are daily concern or which can help in the development of particular areas. Now regarding the arguments advanced that these villages should have a bigger population than what has been provided for in the Bill, my submission is that so far as Assam is concerned, a village having a population of about 2,500 people will be a suitable unit. But the hon. Members will also realise that if in a particular village there are more than 2,500 people—say even 5,000 or 7,000 people and if these people desire to remain as a unit, there is nothing which will prevent them from forming a well managed Gaon Sabha or Gaon Panchayat and for that purpose there is already a provision in that Bill. But the hon. Members will realise that most of the villages in Assam, in order to have a population of 2,500 people, will cover a very big area and if we increase the population to more than that it will become very difficult for a village or Gaon Panchayat to manage this area and for this reason, for such area which is thickly populated we have already provided a provision that if they want to have a Gaon Panchayat having a population of more than 2,500 people, they can be free to form such a Panchayat but by the free will of the people living in that area. So my submission is that there is nothing wrong and perhaps it will be more advantageous from the point of view of administration and of making the administration effective by having the unit we have provided, i.e., a unit of 2,500 population. Then we were told that it would have been much better if instead of the Anchalik Panchayat these powers have been given to the Mohkuma Parishad. The very reason for which this Bill has been introduced is to decentralise the authority and powers to the lowest level and if we had kept these powers at the subdivisional or local level, perhaps the purpose would not have been served as effective as it can now serve through the Anchalik Panchayat. Now in a subdivision there may be 5 or 6 Anchalik Panchayats and the work that we want these Mohkuma Parishad to do, that very work will be done by these so many Mohkuma Parishads in the form of Anchalik Panchayat in the subdivision and I think in that manner they will be able to give effective control and bring about closer co-operation among the villages than perhaps if these powers and authorities are left with the Mohkuma Parishad. One of the arguments advanced was that we have given these powers and authorities to the Anchalik Panchayat because we want to probe up the community development and extension programmes. Well, for the purpose of probing up the community development and extension programmes, it is not necessary that these powers should be given but what I feel is this that the very argument advanced against this is I think an argument that the power should be given to the Anchalik Panchayat because the hon. Members feel that the Community development projects have not succeeded because they lack the support and enthusiasm from the people concerned and therefore, when this authority has been given to the Anchalik Panchayat where they will have complete control and supervision over the officers placed at their disposal, I think they will be able to help in the development of all the villages which fall under the Anchalik Panchayat. Now, the hon. Members will

agree that it is not possible for any Government, particularly, a Government which has not got sufficient resources, to take up developmental activities at one time throughout the State. That course of development has to be done through stages and that is why we have thought it that instead of taking up development work all over the State, we should do it block by block in certain parts of the State and for that purpose, these blocks have been constituted and these blocks will be utilised through these Anchalik Panchayats for the purpose of development work and I personally feel that if we leave this work to a few officers and entrust the same to elected representatives of that particular area and if they are made responsible for carrying out the programmes in that area, perhaps, there will be more enthusiasm among the people and there will be more co-operation from the people concerned and perhaps we shall be able to remove those defects on account of which it has not been possible for us to make these Community Projects or Extension Programmes successful during the past years. For this reason, I think it is also necessary that these Anchalik Panchayats are given more power and authority and I believe that with this decentralisation, they will be able to cope with the work of development more effectively as possible than the Mohkuma Parishads. So my submission is that the recommendation made by the Select Committee and the provisions for the Anchalik Panchayats is a very solidary one and it should have the whole hearted support from all Members. Now another main objection raised is that sufficient money has not been placed at the disposal of the Gaon Panchayats and Anchalik Panchayats to discharge the duties and responsibilities with which they will be entrusted. Now the hon. Members will please realise that the Gaon Panchayat will get the entire local rates in that particular area and that the local rates, as the hon. Members will see, are proposed to be increased to 4 annas instead of 2 annas and 6 pies or 2 annas at present. Now, if the local rate is increased to 4 annas it means that the Gaon Panchayat will have 25 per cent of the land revenue collected in that area for expenditure. In addition to the local rate of 4 annas they will get 15 per cent of the land revenue which will be equivalent to 25 per cent of the total land revenue. So whatever land revenue is collected from a particular area 40 per cent of that will go to the Gaon Panchayat. In addition to this Gaon Panchayat will get certain income from minor and major hats. They will also get other contributions development works from the Government. I personally feel if all these amounts are taken together there is no doubt that they will have sufficient fund at their disposal in order to undertake various activities in these particular areas. In addition to these, those Gaon Panchayats which will be under Community Extension Projects will get further benefits. For the first five years as the hon. Members might have seen there will be spent on each Community Extension Project 12 lakhs of rupees and for the next five years about 5 lakhs of rupees. So in ten years 17 lakhs would be spent in these particular areas and the villagers will also get benefit out of that. Today when Government is suggesting a provision that not less than 25 per cent of the land revenue should be contributed to these Gaon Panchayats, one of the ideas working in my mind is that in such areas where it is not possible to establish such blocks, out of this land revenue we should give some amount so that these areas may not be left behind and may undertake development work. Here the provision is not less than 25 per cent. Therefore we have fixed only the minimum percentage of land revenue which will be given to these areas and if we find that for some other activities it is necessary to spend more money in these backward areas, there is nothing to prevent Government from giving more money than what has been provided here. Therefore

the provision is not 25 per cent but not less than 25 per cent. So I hope if proper attention is given to the provision which has been made and which has been accepted by the Select Committee, I think the objection raised on this point will also be waived by the hon. Members.

These are two or three important arguments which have been advanced; besides some of the hon. Members have not liked the giving of judicial power to the Panchayat. I do not know why they fear, why they are unhappy about giving such jurisdiction or authority to the Gaon Panchayat. I would only say this much: we must have faith in our village people and give them full scope to discharge their duties. Even if they make mistake and cannot discharge their duties properly, I would welcome that mistake. Let them learn by committing that mistake and let them learn by experience. Let us not think that they will not be able to improve matters, they will be able to manage these affairs after they gain experience and knowledge in all these matters. I think it is only proper that they should be left to settle their own affairs. Instead of rushing to the court the people in the villages themselves should have the opportunity of deciding and disposing these matters and it is for this reason that some judicial functions should have been given to them and I have no doubt whatsoever that if proper attention is given by these Gaon Panchayats, if judicial administration is done in a proper manner, it should be desirable for us to transfer more judicial powers to them than what has been given under this provision. So I hope simply because of fear of suspicion that this function will not be discharged properly, on that ground we should not withhold transference of such powers and I hope the confidence and trust which we have reposed in our people will be discharged faithfully and will be discharged much more effectively than even we could imagine. Here I may inform the House that so far as our provision go perhaps they can be compared very favourably with the provisions of such bills which have been introduced in any part of the country.

Mr. SPEAKER: One hon. Member raised the question of appointment of the Secretary.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: (Minister, Local Self-Government):** We have consulted some Central Government officials who have read our provisions and they have one criticism to offer about our Bill. I am bringing it to the notice of the House so that they may have time to consider it and if necessary later on we may come with an amendment. They say when all these functions and duties are transferred to the Gaon Panchayat and Anchalik Panchayat this Bill lacks in one aspect that we have not imposed some obligation with regard to development work on the Panchayats. They say supposing Government gives some money for the purpose of constructing an embankment or some irrigation work, but what happens after that construction has been completed? Now when some funds have been placed at the disposal of the Panchayat, some obligation should also be put on the Panchayat that those things are put in proper condition. It is from that point of view there is a feeling that this Act has already placed certain obligations which are in the interest of a particular area. So my submission is this is an aspect about which I would like the hon. Members to think and if necessary later on it may be thought useful to bring about such a change in the Bill so that such an obligation might be placed on the Panchayat.

*Speech not corrected

Another objection which has been made is about the appointment of a Secretary. As the hon. Members have realised that the appointment of a Secretary so far as the Gaon Panchayat is concerned has been left entirely to the Gaon Panchayat. So far as the Secretary in the Anchalik Panchayat is concerned, the Block Development Officer will function as Secretary. No additional Secretary need be appointed. He will be functioning as the Secretary of the Anchalik Panchayat and he will be completely under the control of the Anchalik Panchayat, because his duties as laid down in the Act will be that he will carry out the decisions of the Anchalik Panchayat and the President of the Anchalik Panchayat.

Now, a question has been raised that appointment of such officer has not been entrusted to the Anchalik Panchayat. My submission is that in order to appoint officers of that category the Anchalik Panchayat must have an organisation something like the Public Service Commission in order to see that suitable candidates are appointed. Is it possible or will it be financially possible for any Anchalik Panchayat to undertake expenditure of running such an organisation? So what the Government proposed to do is to employ suitable persons and place them at the disposal of the Anchalik Panchayats and if at any time it is found that a certain officer is found unsuitable or if he does not work efficiently, we shall accept the views of the President of the Anchalik Panchayat and if necessary we shall transfer that officer from one Block to another. Now, when it comes to transferring one officer from one Block to another or from its jurisdiction to another, it is not possible for the Anchalik Panchayat to do that. So, that power has been left with some higher authority. Therefore Sir, in the matter of appointment as also for the purpose of transfer such officers it is necessary that power should remain with some higher authority so that the officer may be transferred not only from one Anchalik Panchayat to another but also, if necessary, from one district to another district. It is for this reason that this power has been left in the hands of the Government as it is felt they will find no difficulty in seeing that this duty is discharged properly.

Then, one thing I have not been able to understand. I sometimes get amused when people think Government as something different from those institutions like Gaon Panchayats, Anchalik Panchayats and so on. Now, what are we to do to-day we are running the Government not because we have sent here to represent some outside nation or because we have been sent here to deputies on behalf of an authority which does not exist. The Government as it is to-day is the people's Government. There can be no distinction between the Government and the people because, as I have said, it is the people's Government. That being so, the Government will certainly not go against the interest of the people. The Government is there to help the people to develop themselves. So I say sometimes I get amused to hear people saying that Government is something different. Now, these executive members of the Gaon Panchayats form sort of a Government in their particular areas, then higher up there is the Anchalik Panchayats and still higher up there is the Government in the State and again higher up there are the people. Therefore, we should not entertain these ideas that Government is something different. Here, whatever power is kept in the hands of the Government is in the interest of better administration and for reason of expediency. I hope hon. Members will not have any suspicion what so ever that Government has any ulterior motive in keeping these powers.

Now Sir, these are my points in reply to the arguments which have been advanced here. There are also certain other matters discussed but I think it is not necessary for me to take the time of the House in replying to those. Now, I hope hon. Members will consider the additions and alterations that have been made by the Select Committee in regard to this Bill.

***Shri RANENDRA MOHON DAS: (Karimganj North):** I just want one small clarification Sir. In those places where there are no officer what is to be done?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** As hon. Member will have seen that we have many officers in the Development Blocks and N. E. S. Blocks some of these officers who will be surplus will be appointed.

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, I put the question. The question is that the Assam Panchayat Bill, 1958 as presented by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted).

Now, there are 68 amendments; but I find most of them are of consequential nature. But even then I will put them.

The first amendment to Clause 2 standing in the names of Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika, Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami and others. One of them may move.

(Clause 2)

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that—

(1) In Sub-clause (2) *substitute* the word 'Such' occurring between the words, "means" and "Panchayat" in line 1 by the word "a" and delete the words "as may be" occurring in line 2.

(2) Sub-clause (13) *delete* the words, "to be appointed" occurring in line 2.

(d) Sub-clause (15) *delete* the word, 'as' occurring between the words "Sabha" and "established" in line 2.

(4) Provision to Sub-clause (20) *delete* the square brackets enclosing the words, "demand to be" in line 2 and *insert* the article "a" thereafter before the words "minor" hat".

(5) Sub-clause (25) *substitute* the figure "85" occurring in the line 2 by the figure "86".

(6) Sub-clause 28—*Insert* the word 'any' in between the words "or" and "local" occurring in line 2.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendments are move as above.

*Speech not corrected.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) : I accept the amendments, Sir.

(The Amendments were put as question and adopted)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 2 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

(Clause 3)

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur): Sir, I beg to move that in second proviso in sub-clause (2) *delete* the word 'up' occurring between the words, 'establishment' and 'affects' in line 1.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is that in second provision sub-clause (2) *delete* the word "up" occurring between the words "establishment" and 'affects' in line 1.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I accept the amendment.

(The Amendment was put as a question and adopted)

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 3 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

(Clause 5)

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that the whole clause 5 be deleted.

Now, clause 5 provides for provision of Anchalik Panchayats in the areas now covered by Community Development Blocks and National Extension Service Blocks. There is a provision in the Bill that the Anchalik Panchayats would be some sort of development block or National Extension Service Block and the area to be covered by the Anchalik Panchayat correspond to the area covered by these Community Development or National Extension Service Blocks. Now we find the observations of the Balwant Rai Mehta Study Team Vol.I p.26 it says like this:

"The size of the block has been the subject of considerable discussion. Originally, each Community Project embraced a population of roughly 2 lakhs and the project was divided into three blocks. These figures were not based on any special study of the needs and requirements of the area nor on the capacity of the staff appointed to handle the work; they were almost accidental. When, therefore, it is said that the average population of a block should be 66,000 there seems to be no special basis on which this figure is arrived at. As a result of our various discussions, we have reached the conclusion that normally a Gram Sevak can cope with a population of about 800 families or 4,000 persons. For very sparsely populated areas, the figure would be necessarily smaller. We also feel that an extension officer cannot normally deal with more than 20 Gram Sevaks; with more trained personnel becoming available this number will have to be smaller. The sizes of the blocks as well of the Gram Sevak circles at present show a wide range of variations from block to block. Now, the study Team also agree that blocks formation does not follow any rule and do not answer the need of the people. In this particular clause it has been suggested that the

area to be covered by the present Block or Shadow Block will be converted into Anchalik Panchayat which has been saddled with enormous power and responsibility for the development of a particular Block. In answer to the general discussion the Minister-in-charge has already said that this Block Panchayat will be given responsibility of implementing the programme of the Block but that is exactly where we have objection. The Block has been devised without any reference to the tradition and requirement of the people and the failure will be the responsibility of the people, *i. e.*, Anchalik Panchayat. Therefore, I do not feel that this Anchalik Panchayat will serve the purpose for which it is intended and the powers which are proposed to be given to the Anchalik Panchayat for developing all the Village Panchayats, except the power to co-ordinate, will go to the Mahakuma Parishad. This is my amendment, Sir, and I hope the House will accept it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is that the whole clause 5 be deleted.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Sir, I have already dealt with this aspect of the matter. My Friend Shri Borthakur's amendment is intended to replace the Anchalik Panchayat by Mahakuma Parishad. By this amendment he wants all the powers given to the Anchalik Panchayat should be transferred to the Mahakuma Parishad. As I have already said that this is a more convenient level at which the powers can be decentralised in the State. If we can undertake expenditure and want to go to a lower level, it is desirable having regard to our limitation to go to a lower level, *i. e.*, Anchalik Panchayat. Therefore, I think this decentralisation should not be kept at the Subdivisional or District level. It should be brought to the level of Anchalik Panchayat. I have also said that this is also necessary, because the pattern of staff the Community Development Block is going to have would be a regular pattern in the future. By having a body at this Anchalik Panchayat level we will be able to utilise usefully all the Officers for the purpose of development work and the money is going to be allotted for the development work at these level.

In view of these facts and circumstances I think it is only desirable that we should give the power to the Anchalik Panchayat and should not insist that these powers be transferred to Mahakuma Parishad which are in the subdivisional or district level.

Therefore, I oppose the amendment and I hope my Friend will withdraw his amendment and accept what has been suggested by the Select Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Borthakur, are you withdrawing ?

Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh): No, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the clause 5 be deleted.

I request the hon. Members to rise in their seats.

(The hon. Members present in the House rose in their seats and the results of the Division is as follows):

Ayes	...	...	...	...	...	8
Noes	...	...	...	...	...	36

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is lost.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati):** Sir, in view of the fact that some hon. Members have not heard the Bell properly, and could not come in time but have now come, let there be fresh voting or at least let their names be included ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Similarly in this side of the House some Members have now come (*laughter*).

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a system in the Parliament of 'pairing off' (*laughter*).

Anyway the amendment is lost.

Now the question is that Clause 5 do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: Clause 6.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** This is accepted, Sir ; it is consequential.

Clause 7.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** (*Kamalpur*) Sir, I beg to move: Substitute the figure '10' occurring between the words, 'section' and 'shall' in line 3 by the figure '8'.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it, Sir.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 7, as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 8. No amendment.

Clause 9.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move that in clause 9 (i) in sub-clause (1) *Delete* the last letter 'S' from the word 'words' occurring in line '8' and *insert* the words 'wherever they are appointed' after the word 'gaonburas' in line 11.

(ii) in sub-clause (4) substitute the word, 'heads' occurring between the words 'of' and 'except' in the first line by the words 'hands.'

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it, Sir.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 9, as amended do form part of Bill.

Clause 10.

(The question was adopted).

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move in clause 10: delete the words, 'by the President' and 'of the Gaon Panchayat Sabha' occurring in lines 3 and 4 respectively.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: *Delete* the words 'by the President' and 'of the Gaon Panchayat Sabha' occurring in lines 3 and 4 respectively.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister Local Self-Government):** I accept it, Sir.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 10, as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 11.

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move in clause 11 that (i) in first proviso to sub-clause (2) substitute the word 'Sabha' occurring between the words 'Gaon' and 'for' in lines 2 and 3 by the word 'Panchayat'.

(ii) insert the following proviso after the 4th proviso. Provided further that this representation shall continue only as long as special representation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes continues to be provided for in the Constitution of India.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I accept it, Sir.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (2), clause 11 the last four provisos namely provisos II, III, IV and V be deleted. Sir, these provisos of the clause is undemocratic because the Gaon Panchayat is composed as a unit; it is not a federal one, and for that purpose the general provision has been made with territorial jurisdiction. Here it is the function of the Political parties to contest elections. On the very face of it, it is undemocratic. Of course we feel that the Scheduled Tribes should get representation, but this is not proper that this should be brought into Panchayat. That is the function of the major political parties. It is our duty to try to uplift the backward classes. But I am opposed to do this by inserting certain compulsory provisions here. Moreover we find there is a provision for representation of women. To the best of my information no woman in the whole country has claimed any representation for them by insertion of a provision like this. Therefore I expect that this proviso should be deleted from this Clause.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: Sub-clause (2) Delete the last four provisos namely provisos II, III, IV and V.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, in this connection the only thing I would like the hon. Member to remember is that there is a proviso to this Clause to the effect that this provision will continue so long as special representation continues to be provided in the Constitution. Since we have accepted the Constitution of India and in view of the amendment which I have accepted, I think my hon. Friend, Shri Barthakur will be pleased to withdraw his amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member said something about representation of women also.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati):** Sir, is there any special representation for woman in the Constitution?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** No, only to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA:** As a matter of fact there are two parts of the amendment, one relating to representations of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the other regarding representation to women. Now, what has the Minister got to say about representation of women?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I hope my Friend will be more chivalrous to the women.

Mr. SPEAKER: Under the Constitution special representation is provided not only to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes but also to the weaker sections of the people. I do not know whether our women would like to call themselves as weaker section.

Any way, in view of the hon. Minister's reply, is the hon. Member withdrawing his amendment?

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKEUR:** Yes, Sir, I withdraw.

Mr. SPEAKER: So, the question is: Clause 11, as amended, do now form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 12. No amendment.

Clause 13

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamarpur):** Sir, I beg to move: Substitute the colon occurring at the end of the clause by a full stop and insert the following thereafter—

"The qualification, remuneration powers, functions and duties of the Secretary, shall be as prescribed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the Amendment.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 13, as amended, do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 14

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move: (I) sub-clause (4)—substitute the words, "amongst them" occurring in the line 3 by the words "amongst themselves".

(ii) Sub-clause (II)—Delete the words, “as far as practicable” occurring in lines 1 and 2 and substitute the word “Secretary” occurring in the line 2 by the word “President.”

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Sir, I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 14, as amended, do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clauses 15—16. No amendments.

Clause 17

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move: first proviso to sub-clause (1) (i)—Substitute the word “minimum” occurring in line 5 by the word ‘maximum’ sub-clause (2)—substitute the whole sub-clause by the following:—wherever five per cent or more of the members of the Gaon Sabhas comprising the Anchalik Panchayat and Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes as the case may be, then in case no member belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes as the case may be, is elected to the Anchalik Panchayat the member of the Anchalik Panchayat shall co-operate one member belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes as the case may be.

Provided that the representations shall continue only as long as special representation for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes continue to be provided for in this Constitution of India.”

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that Clause 17, as amended, do form part of the Bill.

I am sorry, Shri Barthakur has two amendments on this. I am extremely sorry for this oversight. Shri Barthakur will now move his amendments.

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (i) and (ii)—delete item (ii) of sub-clause (i) of Clause 17.

In sub-clause (2)—Delete the sub-clause together with both the provisos.

Now, Sir, this clause provides for representation in the Anchalik Panchayats. Here we find a peculiar method of representation has been adopted. Sir, this representation from the co-operative societies is a functional representation but for the Anchalik Panchayats we find representation is sought to be provided on territorial basis. I do not understand how these two representatives should be compounded. Functional representation can only be given where a particular function is not likely to be represented in a body. Functional representation in the constitutional history of the world is given as a check only when there are two Houses—one house is formed on the basis of anchalik representation and the other on functional representation. But here these two members have been compounded, one on anchalik basis and the other on functional basis. I do not think the

Members of the co-operatives will represent the entire locality and therefore I think no useful purpose will be served by having one representative to be elected by the Chairman of the co-operative societies. There is in that case, always the chance of vested interest being introduced in the Anchalik Panchayats.

As regards the other proviso regarding representation of Scheduled Castes or Tribes, I feel, Sir, that we should not assume that only representation of Scheduled Castes or Tribes are there. So I am opposed to functional representations of this nature.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has two amendments, one No. 13 and the other is No. 14 which seeks to delete the whole clause.

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** I do not want to move my Amendment No. 14.

In view of what I have stated, I hope that this amendment of mine will be accepted by the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: In sub-clause (1) (i)—Delete the item (ii) of sub-clause (1) of clause 17.

(ii) sub-clause (2) Delete the sub-clause together with both the provisos.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Sir, I oppose this amendment. Apart from the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is concerned, there is also representation of co-operative societies because the kind of thing which we want to usher in these villages, the kind of development activities and other economic activities will be undertaken by two wings, i. e., one by gaon panchayats and the other by co-operative societies. I therefore think that it is desirable that all these people, these organised co-operative societies should have representation so that by their presence they may be able to keep members of Anchalik Panchayats around them and supervise the programmes. It is only with this view that representation to co-operative societies has been provided. I think in view of this, the hon. Member will raise no objection representation of co-operative societies being members of these anchalik panchayats. Because as hon. Members may have seen that our Nagpur Resolution give stress on co-operative and joint farming and at the same time on Gaon Panchayat. So, these two activities have to be undertaken by different villages. It is desirable that when we are considering about development programme what is being done on the economic sector of the co-operative societies should also be known to the members of the Anchalik Panchayat. Therefore, in view of this Resolution my Friend will not insist that this provision should be deleted.

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAHAKUR:** I do not want to withdraw my Amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is—

- (i) In sub-clause (1) (i)—Delete item (ii) of sub-clause (1) of clause 17.
 (ii) In sub-clause (2)—Delete the sub-clause together with both the provisos.

(The question was negatived)

Now the question is clause No. 17 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 18—21. Amendments were not moved.

Clause 22

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (1) proviso—Insert the word “may” in between the words ‘case’ and ‘be’ occurring in the last line.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is that in sub-clause (1) proviso—Insert the word ‘may’ in between words ‘case’ and ‘be’ occurring in the last line.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** I accept the Amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Sir, I am not moving my Amendment No. 17 as it is not necessary.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that Clause 22 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clauses 23—25. No amendments.

Clause 26

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move Amendment to Clause 26.

Sir, I beg to move that—

(i) In sub-clause (1)—Substitute the word ‘notifying’ occurring between the words ‘by’ and ‘in’ in line 3 by the word intimating.

(ii) in sub-clause (2)—Insert the word ‘or’ occurring between the words ‘Gaon’ and ‘Anchalik’ in line 2 and substitute the word ‘notifying’ occurring in line 3 by the word ‘intimating’.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the Amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that Clause 26 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 27

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move that—

(i) in sub-clause (1)(b)(iii)—Insert the word ‘or’ between the words ‘Gaon’ and ‘Anchalik’ occurring in lines 2 and 3.

(ii) In sub-clause (2)—Insert the word 'above' in between the words 'mentioned' and 'in' occurring in line 5.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** I accept the Amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that Clause 27 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 28. Amendment not moved.

Clause 29

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move that—

(i) In sub-clause (4)—Substitute the words, 'among them' occurring in lines 3 and 4 by the words, "amongst themselves".

(ii) In sub-clause (7)—Delete the words, 'a seven' occurring in line 2 and insert the figure '7' between the words 'dear' and 'days' occurring in line 3.

(iii) In sub-clause (9)—Insert the words, "and to this President of the Mahkuma Parishad concerned" between the words, 'member' and 'and' occurring in line 3.

Also substitute the word "Proceedings" occurring between the words 'of' and 'of' in line 6 by the words 'the members'.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the Amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that Clause 29 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 30. No amendment.

Clause 31

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move that—

(i) In sub-clause (1)—Delete the article 'a' occurring between the words, 'Committee or' and 'standing' in line 3 and substitute the word, 'performance' occurring in line 5 by the word 'doing.'

(ii) In sub-clause (2)—Delete the article 'a' occurring before the words, 'Standing Committee' in line 4 and 9, Delete the words, 'when of all the members were duly qualified' occurring in the last line.

(iii) In sub-clause (4)—Substitute the words, 'of a' occurring between the words, 'Sub-Committee' and 'Standing Committee' in line 4 by the word, 'or', Delete the word, 'any' occurring between the words, 'or' and 'Standing Committee' in line 8.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Sir, I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that Clause 31 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 32

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move that—In proviso of clause (32)—Substitute the word, 'or' occurring between the words, 'member' and 'remuneration' in line 7 by the words, 'and/or'.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: In proviso of clause (32) substitute the word, 'or' occurring between the words, 'number' and 'remuneration' in line 7 by the word "and/or".

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 32 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clauses 33-35—No. Amendments

Clause 36

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move that:

(i) In clause 36 I (4)—Delete the word 'drinking' occurring between the words 'of' and 'water'. Insert the words, 'for drinking' between the words 'water' and 'and'.

Delete the words, 'water supply for' occurring between the words 'and' and 'domestic'.

(ii) In sub-clause 36 I(11)—Insert the words, 'providing' before the word, 'medical'.

(iii) In clause 36 II (7)—Insert the word, 'or' between the words, 'Sabha' and 'Vest' occurring in line 3.

(iv) In clause 36—III(2)—Delete the article 'a' occurring between the words, 'of' and 'library' in line 1.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 36, as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

*Clauses 37-39—No Amendments**Clause 40*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamarpur):** Sir, I beg to move that: In sub-clause (4)—Substitute the word, 'contribution' occurring between the words, 'such' and 'as' in line 3 by the word 'compensation'.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: That in sub-clause (4)—Substitute the word, 'contribution' occurring between the words, 'such' and 'as' in line 3 by the word, 'contribution'.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local-Self Government):** I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 40 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

*Clauses 41-42—No Amendments**Clause 43*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move—Delete the word 'Sabha' occurring in the first line of the head line.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is that the word, 'Sabha' be deleted occurring in the first of the head line.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** Sir, I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 43 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

*Clauses 44-56—No Amendments**Clause 57*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move: Substitute the clause 57 (c) by the following—

“(c) living in a room or house which neither he nor any one of whom he is dependent either owner or pays rent for the Anchalik Panchayat or any persons authorised by it in this behalf, may on the advice of any medical officer or rank not inferior to that of an Assistant Surgeon Grade I remove the patient to any hospital or place at which persons suffering from such diseases are received for medical treatment, and may do anything necessary for such removal.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the amendment, Sir.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 57 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

CHAPTER IV

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move: In Headline of chapter IV—Insert the word 'and' between the words, 'Gaon' and 'Anchalik'.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is that in head line chapter IV, the word, 'and' be inserted between the words, 'Gaon' and 'Anchalik'.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Chapter IV as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clauses 58-66—No Amendments
Clause 67

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move: In sub-clause (4)(ii)—Delete the word, 'Sabha' occurring between the words, 'Gaon' and 'or' in line 1.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is that in sub-clause (4) (ii), the word, 'Sabha' be deleted occurring between the words, 'Gaon' and 'or' in line 1.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 67 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 68

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move: Delete the word, 'Sabha' occurring between the words, 'Gaon' and 'or' in line 8.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is that the word, 'Sabha,' occurring between the words, 'Gaon' and 'or' in line 8 be deleted.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 68 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 69

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move: In item (iv) of the clause 69—Change the words, 'contribution from' occurring in line 5 from italics to ordinary regular type."

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: In item (iv) of clause 69—Change the words, 'contribution from' occurring in line 5 from italics to ordinary regular type.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** I accept the amendment, Sir.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

***Shri NILMONEY BARTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Sir, I beg to move: Item (iv) of the clause—Substitute the word, "which shall not be less than fifteen per cent of the net receipts after providing for the Agents Commissioner" occurring in lines 2 and 3 by the words, "which shall not be less than twenty-five per cent of the gross receipts".

It is proposed that at least 25 per cent of the gross collection on land revenue should be made available to the Gaon Panchayat to establish a fund so that there will be feeling of confidence that a portion of the Land Revenue which the people pay may go to the Gaon Panchayat Fund for their betterment and Development. The feeling only can be given if a good slice of land revenue is given to them which they have to pay. Here the Minister suggested that the whole local rate should be made available to the goan panchayat, and for that purpose the local rates should be raised. That is not necessary. We enhance the local rate and say to our people that this is given to you. It is better to keep the local rate as it is and to give them a suitable share of land revenue. If the agriculturists can have good production and can get a good price they will be willing to give land revenue to the Government.

Therefore I hope, this amendment will be accepted by the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: That in item (IV) of the clause substitute the words, "which shall not be less than fifteen per cent of the net receipts after providing for the Agents Commissioner" occurring in lines 2 and 3 by the words, "which shall not be less than twenty-five per cent of the gross receipts."

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Sir, I oppose this amendment. The purpose of this amendment is to apportion revenue to panchayats without deducting the commission charge paid and to Mauzaders in collection of revenue. As I said, we have in view not only to transfer to the Panchayats the specified functionist but other function as well including the work of correction of revenue. It will then be possible for Panchayats to get this commission itself. We have therefore provided that goan Panchayat will get these share of the net income to be calculated after deductions of commissions to Mauzadars.

In view of what I have said that the goan Panchayat may itself one day get this commission, I hope this amendment will not be pursued.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Barthakur, are you withdrawing your amendment?

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Yes, Sir.

(The amendment was withdrawn with the leave of the House).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 69 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted.)

Clause 70

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move that in the proviso to item (V) of the clause—delete the article 'a' occurring in line 1 of the proviso.

Substitute the word, 'situates' occurring at the end of the proviso by the words, 'is situate'.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is:

“Proviso to item (V) of the clause—delete the article 'a' occurring in the line 1 of the proviso.

Substitute the word, 'situates' occurring at the end of the proviso by the word, 'is situate'.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** I accept it.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 70 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

(Amendments standing in the names of Shri Joga Kanta Barua, Shri Nilmoney Borthakur were not moved).

Clause 73

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** I beg to move that in sub-clause (2)(ii)—change the words, “subject to the provision of section 38” occurring in the first line from italics printing to ordinary regular types and delete the dash occurring thereafter.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: That in sub-clause (2)(ii)—change the words, ‘subject to the provision of section 38’ occurring in the first line from italics printing to ordinary regular types and delete the dash occurring thereafter.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 73 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 74—No Amendment.

Clause 75

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move:

Delete the square brackets enclosing the words, 'Panchayat' occurring in the head line as well as in line 3 and delete the word "Sabha" occurring in lines 1 and 3.

Item (i)(b) of the clause — *insert the words, "and thatch" after deleting the comma, occurring between the words, "firewood" and "conservancy" in lines 1 and 2.*

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved:

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local-Self Government):** Sir, I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 75 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clauses 76-77—No Amendment.

Clause 78

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move:

Insert the word 'and' in between the words, "purpose" and "of" occurring in lines 2 and 3.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved:

Insert the word, 'and' in between the words, "purpose" and "of" occurring in lines 2 and 3.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 78 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clauses 79-83—No Amendment.

Clause 84

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move:
Substitute the word, "Panchayat" occurring in the first line by the word "Sabha".

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved:
Substitute the word, "Panchayat" occurring in the first line by the word, "Sabha".

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 84 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 85—Amendment not moved.

Clause 86—No Amendment.

Clause 87

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move that in proviso to sub-clause (3)—delete the words, "of three years each" occurring in line 2.

Mr. SPEAKER: Amendment moved is: In sub-clause (3)—delete the words, "of three years each", occurring in line 2.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 87 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 88—No Amendment.

Clause 89

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI: I beg to move that in sub-clause (2)(iii)—Delete the words, "he shall cease to be a member of the Panchayat if he be such member, and" occurring in lines 2 and 3 and add the word, "shall" occurring between the words, "office" and "become" in line 3.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it, Sir.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question as is that clause 89 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

*Clauses 90-91—No Amendment.**Clause 92*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (1)—*Delete* the last letter “s” from the word, “abtimts” and “attempts” occurring in line 5 “there of or” occurring in the same line.

Add one bracket (opening) after the word, “offences” in the fifteenth line.

Add the word, “any” between the words, “commit” and “such” occurring in lines 5 and 6 respectively.

Delete the last letter “s” from the word, “offences” occurring in line 6

Substitute the figure “94” occurring in line 6 by the figures “95”.

Add one bracket (closing) after the word, “offences” in line 6.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local-Self Government):** I accept it.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 92 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

*Clauses 93-94—No Amendment.**Clause 95*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move. the delete figure “85” occurring last line 4 by the figure “86”.

In clause 95 b(7)—*Add* the following new sentence just below item (7).
“All offences under the act”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved:

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 95 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 96

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI :** Sir, I beg to move:
Substitute the word, "substance of the allegation" occurring in line 5 by the word, "same".

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is: *Substitute* the words, "substance of the allegation" occurring in line 5 by the word, "same".

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) :** I accept it, Sir.
 (The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 96 as amended do form part of the bill.
 (The question was adopted).

Clause 97

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) :** Sir, I beg to move:
Add the word, "an" in between the words, "by" and "order" occurring in the first line of the clause.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is:
Add the word, "an" in between the word, "by" and "order" occurring in the first line of the clause.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** I accept it.
 (The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 97 as amended do form part of the Bill.
 (The question was adopted).

Clause 98—No Amendment
 Clause 99

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI :** Sir, I beg to move:
Add the word, "an" between the words, "by" and "order" in line 4.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is:
Add the word, "an" between the words, "by" and "order" in line 4.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** I accept it.
 (The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 99 as amended do form part of the Bill.
 (The question was adopted).

Clause 100

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI :** Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (2)—*Substitute* the word, “an” occurring in line 1 by the word “the” and *delete* the last letter “s” from the word “fails” occurring between the word, “accused” and “to”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is that in sub-clause (2)—*Substitute* the word, “an” occurring in line 1 by the word “the” and *delete* the last letter, “s” the word “fails” occurring between the word, “accused” and “to”.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** I accept the amendment.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 100 as amended do form part of the Bill.
(The question was adopted).

Clauses 101-121—No Amendment.

Clause 122

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) :** Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (1)—*Substitute* the word, “that” occurring between the words, “which” and “parties” in line 5 by the words, “any of the” in sub-clause (2)—*Substitute* the word, “and” occurring before the word, “proceedings” in line 2 by the word, “any”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment is moved :

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local-Self Government) :** I accept it.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 122 as amended do form part of the Bill.
(The question was adopted).

Clause 123—No Amendment.

Clause 124

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) :** I beg to move that in sub-clause (1)—*Substitute* the word, “sum” occurring between the words, “every” and “or” in line 2 by the word, “suit”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is: in sub-clause (1)—*Substitute* the word, “sum” occurring between the words, “every” and “or” in line 2 by the word, “suit”.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED :** I accept it the amendment.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 124 as amended do form part of the Bill.
(The question was adopted.)

*Clauses 125-129—No Amendment.**Clause 130*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move that in sub-clause (2)—*Delete* the words, “an amount of” occurring in lines 2 and 3.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: in sub-clause (2)—*Delete* the words, “an amount of” occurring in lines 2 and 3.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 130 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

*Clauses 131-134—No amendment.**Clause 135*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move:
Substitute the word, “the” occurring after the word, “any member of” in line 2.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: *Substitute* the word, “the” occurring after the words, “any member of” in line 2.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 135 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 136

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** Sir, I beg to move that in sub-clause (5)—*Substitute* the word “or” occurring between the words, “Inspector” or “local,” in line 2 and *substitute* the word, “professional” occurring in same line by the word, “technical”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is that in sub-clause (5)—*Substitute* the word ‘or’ occurring between the words, “Inspector” or “local” in line 2 and *substitute* the words, “professional” occurring in same line by the word “technical”.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** I accept the amendment.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 136 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted.)

*Clause 137—No Amendment.**Clause 138*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** Sir, I beg to move:

Substitute the last word, "of" occurring in the first line of the heading by the word, "or".

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: *Substitute* the last word, "of" occurring in the first line of the heading by the word, "or".

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 138 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

*Clauses 139-142—No Amendment.**Clause 143*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move: *Substitute* the words, "condition of" occurring between the words, "after" and "the" in line 6 by the words, "conviction of".

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: *Substitute* the words, "condition of" occurring between the words, "after" and "the" in line 6 by the words, "conviction of".

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the amendment.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 143 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 144

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move that—(i) in sub-clause (1)—*Delete* the words, "of the" occurring in line 6.

(ii) in sub-clause (2)—*Insert* the words, "Mahkuma Parishad or" between the words, "or" and "a number" in line 2 and 3.

Delete the word, "next" occurring between the words, "days" and "after" in line 5.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved:
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Sir, I accept it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 144 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

*Clauses 145-149—No Amendment.**Clause 150*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur):** I beg to move: *Substitute* the word, "of" occurring between the words, "act" or "rules" in line 6.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is: *Substitute* the word, "of" occurring between the words, "act" or "rules" in line 6.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept the amendment.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 150 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted,)

*Clauses 151-154—No Amendment.**Clause 155*

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI:** I beg to move that in sub-clause (1)—*Substitute* the word, "Panchayat" occurring between the words, "gaon" and "area" in lines 1 and 2 by the word, "Sabha".

In sub-clause (2)—*Substitute* the sub-clause by the following—
"When any local area is declared to be an Anchalik Panchayat area under section 5, any assessment, rate or tax other than those to be collected by a gaon Panchayat under sub-section (1), which in force in such area under the provisions of the Assam Local Self-Government, Act, 1953 (Assam Act XXV of 1953) shall continue to be in force until reassessed under this Act and all sums due on account of such rate or tax shall be collected by the Anchalik Panchayat under the provisions of the Act, and shall be credited to its fund.

Provided that the Deputy Commissioner or the Subdivisional Officer, as the case may be shall collect the taxes, tolls, fees or sum of money due to the Anchalik Panchayat in areas where no Anchalik Panchayat is functioning".

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is moved:

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I accept it.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that clause 155 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clauses 156-159—No Amendment.

Clause 160

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur)** : I beg to move that in sub-clause (2) (XI iii), at page 84—*Insert* the word “or” after the word, “gaon” occurring in line 1.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved : In sub-clause (2) (XI iii) at page 84—*Insert* the word, “or” after the word, “goan” in line 1.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government)** : I accept it.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 160 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted).

Clause 161

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI** : I beg to move : *Substitute* the words, “consist on” occurring last line 2 by the word, “consistent”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is : *Substitute* the word, “consist on” occurring last line 2 by the word, “consistent”.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I accept it.
(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 161 as amended do form part of the bill.

(The question was adopted)

Clause 162

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI** : I beg to move that in sub-clause 162 (b). *Insert* the letter “s” after the word, “committee” occurring between the words, “executive” and “of” in line 1.

Insert the letter “S” after the word, “Sabha” occurring between the words, “goan” and “and” in line 4.

Add the word, “goan” occurring between the words, “and” and “Panchayats” in line 4.

Insert the words, “and shall discharge” all the functioning imposed on goan Sabhas and Panchayats, “under this act” in between the words “respectively” and “this” in line 6.

Substitute the words, “coming into force of this act” occurring in line 6 by the words, “date this act comes into force”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : I accept it.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that clause 162 as amended do form part of the Bill.

(The question was adopted.)

*Speech not corrected.

Clauses 163-164. No Amendments

Clause 165

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalgur)** : I beg to move.

Insert commas after the words, "local boards" and "belonged" occurring in lines 10 and 11 respectively.

Substitute the word, "have" occurring between the words, "belonged" and "jurisdiction" in line 11.

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment is moved.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local-Self Government)** : I accept the amendment.

(The amendment was moved as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that Clause 165 as amended do form part of the bill.

(The question was adopted).

Schedule B (page 93).

***Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI** : I beg to move that in 4th column—*Substitute the word, "and" occurring in line 4 by the word "an".*

Mr. SPEAKER : The amendment moved is. In 4th column *Substitute the word, "and" occurring in line 4 by the word, "an".*

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : I accept the amendment
Sir.

(The amendment was put as a question and adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that Schedule B as amended do form part of the bill.

(The question was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Schedule A as amended by the Select Committee do form part of the bill and the long title and the Preamble of the bill as amended by the Select Committee do form part of the bill.

(The question was adopted).

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED** : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Panchayat Bill, 1958 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved. Now the question is that the Assam Panchayat Bill, 1958 be passed.

(The question was adopted).

**The Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged)
Bill 1959.**

Mr. SPEAKER : There is a message from the Governor. "I recommend under Article 207(3) of the Constitution of India the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959 for taking into consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

SAIYID FAZL ALI,
Governor of Assam.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration. This is a very humblest legislation. It provides for local rates which are collected by the Government to be distributed amongst the Local Bodies, Town Committees and Rural areas of the Panchayat.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that that Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

(The question was adopted).

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959, be passed.

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill 1959

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that the Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Mr. Speaker Sir, we are opposed to this bill for the simple reason that it proposes to tax the people. In our Kamrup District there is a saying “ভেমটো ভেমটো কলহৰ কানটো” Now Sir, we have, this time *i. e.* in this Budget Session done huge business such as grand financial condition, a surplus budget and there was no proposals for new taxation in view of the surplus budget. Therefore the small bill *e. g.* Local Rates (Amendment) Bill have sought to double taxation of land revenue. Sir, people are paying two annas at present. This taxation will be double burden over people. In this view of the matter, there is no other alternative than to oppose this legislation.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur)** : Mr. Speaker Sir, we are opposed to this legislation. Because we do not find any justification for increasing the local rates. Sir, the Finance Minister said this time that there would be no new taxation. We took on his own words and thought that there would be really no new taxation. It was more so when our budget was a surplus one, and we have not seen any necessity of introducing this bill before this House at the fag end of the Session. If we consider the object of this new taxation in straight words, it will cajole the House. If we go into the history of the Local rates we find that the local rates

were introduced at a time when our Government were running by the foreign Government. This foreign Government considered it necessary. Now the whole situation is changed. If it is considered that the Local Bodies require this local rates then we can give from our Central Budget.. It does not necessarily mean that people should be taxed and then pay to the local bodies.

To Mr. Ahmed it may appear very insignificant; two annas or four annas does not mean much to him or to many Members, but this difference of two annas in a rupee is something for the people who are already over burdened with many taxes. The incidence of land revenue in our State is also not very low. If you compare the incidence of land revenue in other States, you will find, Sir, that in Assam it is really very high. Over and above that we want to add another two annas in the rupee. That will mean a lot to our people. Sir, to-day we are paying so many taxes; as a matter of fact, taxes from the cradle to the grave and even after that. Not only the direct taxes, but indirect taxes are also there. The people feel the pinch of indirect taxes more than the direct taxes—indirect taxes in the shape of high prices, high cost of amenities, transport, etc. These things are also to be taken into consideration. The tax structure has already become unbearable for the people, but over and above that we want to-day to levy a further tax to the tune of two annas in rupee. This is wrong. Now, what is the justification for this tax? The justification is that this money will be given to the Panchayats. The whole amount will be given to the lowest layer of the Panchayat and, therefore, it is argued, we should willingly accept this increase in the local rate. But I do not find any justification in it. First of all, this money will not be sufficient to run the Panchayats if we want to run them in the manner envisaged in the Act we have just now passed. This money will not be sufficient if the Panchayats have to undertake the various schemes which we want them to do. We will have to pay money from the State exchequer. Instead of doing that straightaway we want to realise money from the people and give it to the Panchayats. Sir, the Panchayat Enquiry Committee went into this matter and we opposed this idea. We said that so far as the Panchayats were concerned, if at the beginning they were made taxing authorities they would become unpopular. So, at the beginning we have to make them not taxing authorities but Service authorities. In the beginning they may do some service to the people and become popular and by and by when people will get attracted to them, they may be allowed to tax. Here my Friend Mr. Ahmed may say that because of this we are not taxing through the Panchayats; we are taxing ourselves so that they may not become unpopular. But, Sir, the effect will be the same as it is only for the Panchayats that we are taxing the people. The people will know that for these Panchayats their local rate has increased from two annas to four in the rupee. This is likely to make the Panchayats unpopular. We have given so many things to the Panchayats that we must evolve a formula for finding funds. I am sure that formula is not the formula of taxing the people and making over the proceeds to the Panchayat. That will be a wrong thing. Therefore, Sir, we consider that this is a wrong measure and we should oppose it.

With these few words, I again request the Local Self-Government Minister, who is also the Finance Minister, to get money by the right hand and give it by the left, instead of doing it in this way.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय !

कांग्रेस के जो सदस्य बाँव की जनता के वोटपर निर्वाचित होकर इस विधानसभा में आये हैं उन्हें यह सोचना चाहिए कि सदन में लोकल रेट बढ़ाने की व्यवस्था संवन्धी जो बिल आया है उसका विरोध करें। लोकल बोर्ड उठ जानवाला है। लोकल बोर्ड की पूँजी के लिए सन् १८७६ में लोकल रेट संवन्धी यह कानून लागू हुआ था। उस वक्त लोकल रेट केवल ३ ही आने रखे गये थे, किंतु बाद को इसे घटाकर दो आने कर दिए गए। अब लोकल बोर्ड उठनेवाले हैं और उसके स्थान में पंचायत शासन लागू होनेवाला है। जब १८७६ में यह कानून लागू हुआ था तब गाँवों के उन्नयनमूलक कोई परिकल्पना नहीं थी। रास्ते और अन्नान्य उन्नयनमूलक कामों की जीम्मादारी सरकार की नहीं थी। किंतु अब हमारा देश स्वाधीन हुआ और साथ ही हमारे गाँवों के रास्ते और बहुत से दूसरे विभाग में उन्नयनमूलक परिकल्पनाएँ हो रही हैं। उसके लिए आवश्यकीय विभाव भी खोले गये हैं। इस हालत में लोकल रेट बढ़ाना उचित नहीं है। अब हमारा देश स्वाधीन हुआ। स्वाधीनता के बाद इस तरह टेक्स बढ़ें तो जनता इस स्वाधीनता से कैसे खुश हो सकती है ?

मूल रेभीन्यु का २५ प्रतिशत भाग गाँव पंचायत की पूँजी में जायेगा। इस हालत में इस टेक्स को बढ़ाने की कोई भी युक्ति मुझे नहीं दिखाई पड़ रही है। हमारे कांग्रेसी सदस्य गाँवों की जनता के वोट से यहाँ आये हैं। गाँवों की जनता की आर्थिक स्थिति से वे भलीभाँती परिचित हैं।

इस हालतमें वे इस बढ़ते टेक्स के लिए कैसे समर्थन कर सकते हैं ? अभी थोड़ी देर पहले इस बिलपर जब डिबिजन हो रहा था तो बहुत-से कांग्रेसी सदस्यों की नजर इस ओर थी। (हँसि)।

उनका विचार था कि खजाना बढ़ाने का कोई भी नया प्रस्ताव सरकार को नहीं रखना चाहिये। व्यक्तिगत चर्चा में वे ऐसा ही अभिमत प्रकट करते हैं कि हमारी जनतापर कोई भी नया टेक्स न लगाया जाय। इसलिए मैं इस सदन में सदस्यों से अपील करता हूँ कि वे मेरा यह एमेण्डमेन्ट समर्थन करें। जब सदन के बाहर वे भाषण देते हैं तो हमेशा यही कहते हैं कि हमारी सरकार को कोई नया टेक्स लगाना नहीं चाहिये। अब हर सदस्यको इस बारेमें सोचना चाहिये। इसमें पार्टी बाजीका सवाल नहीं लाता चाहिये। ऐसी समस्या में हर सबको एक ही मत होना चाहिये। किंतु मुझ खद है कि अब व सरकार के टेक्स लगाने की इस व्यवस्था को समर्थन देना पड़गा। इसलिये मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि व मेरे इस एमेण्डमेन्ट का समर्थन करेंगे

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Sir, this is taxation in a way. This tax will certainly hit the common people. The rich people will not be hit ; they do not care for four annas or five annas in the rupee, but the poor cultivators will be hit. As I have already observed, our Government is always keeping in view the interest of the rich class. Our Government always profess that they are leading us towards a socialist state, but if we hit out common people economically, how can we reach that goal ? If we sincerely want to bring about a socialist state the common people should be given more opportunities, more facilities, so that they may rise gradually and for that they should be made free from taxation as far as practicable. This increase of local rate will hit the common people. I do not understand why Government wants to have this measure passed so hastily. I think before that, the Government could have taken the public opinion. But I am sorry to say that the Bill has not been sent for the purpose of eliciting public opinion. I do not understand this. Instead the

Government is gradually hitting the common people this way or that way by means of this further taxation. I think Government could have sent this Bill earlier for eliciting public opinion. Sir, this is a direct taxation and I suggest that the common people should be exempted from this tax. Sir, when we need money for running the administration or for other developmental matters, we should also hit the richer section of the people and I do not understand why Government did not put a ceiling on the income of the richer class. In this way, all the money with all the resources of the State will be drained away from Assam in course of time towards foreign countries. The foreign capitalists are exploiting our resources; they are taking away our money and many other things, but the Government is not looking to this. I think, Sir, this is an injustice done by the Government to the common people. Moreover, Sir, when Government propose to establish Panchayat administration, then they could have left the matter to the Panchayat to levy such taxes as are necessary. Why this power has not been given to the Panchayat—why the Government from the top is giving pressure on the common people. This should have been in the hands abolished now and hence of the Panchayat. Local Board established by the alien ruler, is about to be local rate has no meaning now the name 'local rate' should go away. This is my contention Sir. If Government really wants to improve the conditions of the common people who are really hard hit by taxation, certainly Government should not come forward with this taxation measure at this stage. We know that our people are hard hit and our State is begging from the Centre and the Centre is begging from foreign countries. I think Government should withdraw this Bill.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government introduced this local rate system 80 years ago in 1879 when the country was under foreign rule. There was the necessity of levying a tax under the system known as Local-Self Government. This tax was then necessary to run the institutions because of the fact that they were not very much favoured by the foreign rulers. Now, this piece of legislation is brought in to raise taxation which is gradually rising. If I remember alright, at that time it was one anna per rupee which is gradually rising to 3 annas per rupee. We have been remaining contented there. We are going to increase the rate of this taxation to the tune of one-fourth of a rupee that is 25 naye Paise per rupee. What is the principle underlying taxation? The principle underlying taxation is that it must be a service tax or tax temporarily introduced to run certain institutions. But this tax is not a service tax—it is direct tax. It is only a tax imposed which is meant to run an organisation. Now, the principle of tax can be defined thus 'tax them more who can pay more and tax them less who can pay less'. But this taxation is meant to be imposed mostly on the poor peasants who are to pay land revenue and whose holdings do not exceed, as I has been said in the House on several occasions, 5, 10 or 12 bighas. The question arises that if they are to pay tax with such small amount, what is the object of imposing this tax. Government might have been aware that number of cases have been instituted in the court and the poor peasant could not retain his land. He has to give away his land. Now, if we want to raise this additional taxation of which there is absolutely no justification because of the machinery we are to use in order to maintain the accounts as is the case with Land Revenue, we have to create another establishment for maintaining the accounts which will mean unnecessary expenditure. I find that there is no justification for another tax. So my contention is this that there is no justification of this local rate. Even after the abolition of

the Local Boards we give 25 per cent of land revenue to the Panchayats and some other sources of income and not only taxation will do. If one anna per rupee of land revenue is realised as local rate, I am afraid the Panchayats cannot function effectively. They must devise ways and means to augment their income not only by means of direct taxation but by productive measures such as fisheries, plantations of trees of the roadside. These are the various measures by which the Panchayat can raise their income. I do not think we should continue with this sort of taxation such as local rate. I, therefore, want to oppose the Bill. As I have just said I will again say that the Local Rates Regulation which was introduced in 1879 and which is proposed to be amended should not be amended but instead the Regulation should be altogether repealed and realisation of local rates should be done away with leaving the Panchayats to raise their income by other means as I have cited above.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir, I have with interest listened to the arguments advanced by my hon. Friends in opposing the consideration of this motion. Sir, it is not correct to say that increase in local rate has been suggested now for the first time at the fag end of the session and that the hon. Members have been taken by surprise. I hope the hon. Members with whom I had the honour of serving in the Panchayat Bill Select Committee will bear me out that I had suggested about this increase in the local rate on several occasions to the Committee in order to place some amount at the disposal of the Panchayats together with a share of land revenue. Therefore, it is not right to say that all on a sudden by introducing this bill I have sprung a surprise on the hon. Members.

I know my Friends in the Opposition Banches have on occasions to do things for purpose of propaganda and I also know that if they had been in my place here they would never have opposed such an innocuous proposal as have been placed before the House. It is considered that they want to utilise this proposal for the purpose of maligning the Congress Party and the Congress Government by saying 'here as a party which though profess to work for the benefit of poor people, keep on increasing the burden on the poor cultivators.' But I would ask these hon. Members whether socialistic pattern of society in which we want to provide equal opportunities for all kinds of facilities and amenities for our people can be ushered without sacrifice and without some burden on our people. My Friend, Shri Barbaruah, said that after our belief and faith in socialism and with our effort to usher in a socialistic pattern of society, he did not understand how we could suggest imposition of increase in local rates which inevitably increased burden on poor cultivation. I do not know what experience has he to draw upon. It is evident that with our set purpose for development we are putting much less a burden on our people and they are making much less a sacrifice than people of other countries having faith in socialism and accepting communism. Sir, I would ask the hon. Members to remember that no form of increase in duties, or tax or fresh taxation is acceptable to any section of the people. In whatever quantity and in whatever form this is suggested, this is always opposed and unacceptable to the people not only in our country but all over the world. But here in this case I would ask the hon. Members to realise that what has been suggested is neither a fresh taxation nor an increase in duties. What we seek to provide is that an individual, instead of spending of his income for his own purpose, should contribute a small share for the improvement of condition of life in

the rural area where he resides and owns land. There might have been some justification in opposing this increase in local rates if it was intended about the amount realised therefrom in revenue receipts and utilised for some other purpose and the people paying would not derive the direct benefits. But, as has been pointed out by me, the local rates realised will be entirely given to the Panchayats for the purpose of enabling these panchayats to spend in their developmental programmes. The hon. Members know that till now the village authorities were not given even one pie out of the land revenue paid by them but under the present Panchayat Bill, it has been provided that at least 25 per cent of the land revenue would be available for utilisation by the panchayats. If the Government is prepared to surrender 25 per cent of the land revenue to the rural institution and authorities to that extent has to find ways to fill up the gap for meeting liability towards other developmental programmes of the State, is it not in the fitness of things that some sacrifice and contribution should be made by the people in the villages also so that they may make their programmes a success by having sufficient reserves for the developmental work in these areas? It is in this spirit that this proposal has been suggested. Sir, when we are here to represent the people, and help them advance their interests, it becomes necessary for us to give them such advice as will improve their conditions and help them. It is not befitting for any one of us to adopt an attitude which is likely to hinder the progress and to stand in the way of development of our State. Simply for gaining cheap popularity and maligning the Congress Party, my friends want to oppose this increase which, I feel they are neither just nor in the interest of the people. I feel that, if they had been in my place, perhaps much earlier, they would have come forward with such measures to augment our resources for the development work in our rural areas.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) : Sir, we should also put a ceiling on income and stop the compensation to the zamindaries also.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : My Friend talks about taxing the zamindars but he should not forget that we are not sparing that section of the people. Then people also pay income tax. Are we not realising a huge amount out of the agricultural income tax? Are we not realising a huge amount out of the death duties and so on? Have we not taken steps to realise adequate taxes from the rich for the benefit of the poor? When out of these resources we are spending substantial amount for the upliftment of the village people, it is only proper for the village people that instead of then spending one anna or two annas for their individual benefit they should contribute for the interest and benefits. I am sure that no one in the villages will grudge payment of extra anna or two per rupee of land revenue. Mr. Choudhury has stated that there was a provision of 2 annas in the existing provision and now we have made it 4 annas. But I am sure no one in the villages will grudge payment of extra one anna or two provided he gets benefits therefrom. It is for the purpose that the panchayats may have adequate funds to make necessary improvements in rural life that this increase has been suggested. Actually, I would have liked to leave this task of taxation to our Village Panchayats but the hon. Members opposed the provisions originally suggested in this behalf and stated increased that should that if any tax has to be imposed not be left to the Village Panchayats but should be imposed by the State Legislature. Therefore, as this

authority has been kept by the legislation we have come forward with necessary proposal which is suggested nor for an ulterior motive but for the benefit of the people concerned. I have no doubt, whatsoever, that after the Panchayats work in the manner we want them to work and they utilise the increased local rates, revenue and other grants placed at their disposal they will in proper manner in bringing about better conditions of life in villages no grudge bearing this extra burden,

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Why the Bill is not sent for inviting public opinion ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): This is not a matter for which it is necessary to invite public opinion. I am sure that this measure will be largely supported by all sane-minded people. I cannot convince those who are out to exploit the situation. I am sure the criticisms made by the Opposition have not been offered in the interest of people. They have done so for the sake of propaganda.....

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Let us go to the people and.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order let the hon. Minister continue.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I have nothing more to add Sir, I hope the Opposition will appreciate the necessity for proposed increase in local rates and accept my motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: I put the question. The question is that the Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

The House Divided

AYES—51

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| 1. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. | 8. „ Radhika Ram Das. |
| 2. „ Rupnath Brahma. | 9. „ Larsingh Khyriem. |
| 3. „ Kamakhya P r a s a d
Tripathi. | 10. „ Girindra Nath Gogoi. |
| 4. „ Hareswar Das. | 11. „ A. Thanglura. |
| 5. M. Moinul Haque Chou-
dhury. | 12. „ Sai Sai Terang. |
| 6. Shri Mahendra Nath Haza-
rika. | 13. „ Baikuntha Nath Das. |
| 7. „ Biswadev Sarma. | 14. „ Bishnu Lal Upadhyia. |

AYES—contd.

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| 15. Shri Dandeswar Hazarika. | 33. Shri Mohidhar Begoo. |
| 16. „ Devendra Nath Hazarika. | 34. „ Mohi Kanta Das. |
| 17. „ Durgeswar Saikia. | 35. „ Molia Tati. |
| 18. Dr. Ghanashyam Das. | 36. „ Moti Ram Bora. |
| 19. Shri Gauri Shankar Roy. | 37. „ Narendra Nath Sarma. |
| 20. „ Hakim Chandra Rabha. | 38. „ Omeo Kumar Das. |
| 21. „ Harinarayan Baruah. | 39. Shrimati Padma Kumari Gohain. |
| 22. „ Indreswar Khaund. | 40. Shri Purnananda Chetia. |
| 23. „ Joga Kanta Barua. | 41. „ Radha Charan Choudhury |
| 24. Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda. | 42. „ Radha Kishan Khemka. |
| 25. Shri Karka Chandra Doley. | 43. „ Rajendra Nath Barua. |
| 26. „ Khagendra Nath Nath. | 44. „ Ram Nath Das. |
| 27. Prof. (Shrimati) Komol Kumari Barua. | 45. „ Ramnath Sarma. |
| 28. Swami Krishnananda Brahmachari. | 46. „ Ranendra Mohan Das. |
| 29. Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta. | 47. „ Sarat Chandra Goswami. |
| 30. Shri Mahendradra Mohan Chaudhury. | 48. „ Sarbeswar Bardoloi |
| 31. „ Manik Chandra Das. | 49. „ Siddhi Nath Sarma. |
| 32. „ Mohananda Bora. | 50. „ Surendra Nath Das. |
| | 51. „ Tajammul Ali Balaskar. |

NOES—12

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| 1. Shri Biswanath Upadhaya. | 7. Shri Mathias Tuda. |
| 2. „ Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. | 8. „ Nilmoney Borthakur. |
| 3. „ Gopesh Namasudra. | 9. „ Prabhat Narayan Chaudhury. |
| 4. „ Hareswar Goswami. | 10. „ Kumar Prakitish Chandra Barua. |
| 5. Maulavi Jahan Uddin Ahmed. | 11. Dr. Srihari Das. |
| 6. Shri Khogendra Nath Baruah. | 12. Shri Tarun Sen Deka. |

(The question was adopted)

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : On a point of order, Sir, so far as the amendment is concerned it may be lost, but there will be 3 numbers less on the side of Ayes, because 3 of the hon. Members of the Congress party had gone to the Noes Lobby. They went by this door, had given their opinion and came by that door. So these cannot be counted. (interruptions)

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, Order. Let me clarify it.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Sir, we want to know the procedure in this regard. (interruptions)

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, Order. The Teller is there; unless the names of the hon. Members are registered, it cannot be counted.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : If you examine the paper it will be seen that there were marks against the names in the Noes also. (interruptions)

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, Order. It should have been brought to my notice before the result of the Division was announced. Here rule says—"If a member finds that he has voted by mistake in the wrong Lobby, he may be allowed to correct his mistake provided he brings it to the notice of the Speaker before the result of the division is announced". So if the hon. Member wanted to rectify that he should have brought it to my notice before the result was announced.

The procedure is very simple. Those hon. Members who want to vote against the motion they are to walk into the Noes Lobby and those who want to support it they should walk into the Ayes Lobby. If there is any mistake, there is also occasion for rectification as provided in the rules and only that can be done before the result is announced.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : 3 will be less then ?

Mr. SPEAKER : No, No.

(Examining the paper given by the Teller through the Secretary the Speaker said as follows)

Mr. SPEAKER : I find Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami... ..

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamarpur) : I was not there, Sir, (laughter)

Mr. SPEAKER : It is difficult to say how that entered into there (loud laughter). Order, Order, I am grateful to the hon. Member for bringing it to my notice. I shall see to it, but in this particular in view

of the fact that it was brought to my notice only after the result of the Division was announced, nothing could be done about it. In future, may I suggest closer acquaintance with the rules of procedure not only in the matter of speech but also in the matter of voting in the lobby.

The motion is passed.

Now, there are two amendments in the names of Shri Patwari and Shri Chaudhury.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI: Sir, I beg to move to substitute the words, "twenty-five" occurring between the words, "of" and "naye" in line 2 by the word, "thirteen".

आज हमारी विधान सभा के बजेट सेशन खत्म हो रहा है। हमें बड़ी खुशी थी कि इस वर्ष हमारी जनतापर कोई नया टैक्स लगान की व्यवस्था नहीं हो रही है। हमें आशा थी कि हमारी जनतापर नये टैक्स का बोझ नहीं लदा जायेगा। वित्तमंत्री महोदय की बजेट स्पीच से हमें यह विश्वास हो रहा था कि और खुशी हो रही थी कि अब की बार जनतापर कोई नया टैक्स लगान की व्यवस्था नहीं हुई है। हम भी जनता के बीच जायेंगे और उन्हें यह शुभ समाचार दे सकेंगे कि अब की बार जनतापर कोई नया टैक्स नहीं लगाया गया। किंतु आज, इस आखिरी समयमें शायत्वशासन विभाग के मंत्री महोदय ने जो बिल सदन के सामने पेश किया है, और यह नया टैक्स लगान की व्यवस्था की गई है उसे देखकर हमें बड़ा सदमा पहुँचा है। हमें खेद है कि आखिर हमारी गरीब जनतापर टैक्स का बोझ लादा ही गया। वित्तमंत्री महोदय ने खुद कहा था कि हमारे देश की जनता की आमदनी केवल २५३ रुपये हैं। इसपर भी बहुत-से टैक्स का बोझ उनपर लदा हुआ है। इस हालत में और थोड़ा-सा भी टैक्स देने में वे असमर्थ हैं। मुझे विश्वास है कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय इस बात को भली भाँति जानते हैं कि हमारी जनता टैक्स के बोझ से लदी हुई है। इस हालतमें मैं मंत्री महोदय से विनम्र अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वे इस बिल को इस समय के लिए वापस ले लें।

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment moved is substitute the words, 'twenty-five' occurring between the words, "of" and "naye" in line 2 by the word, "thirteen".

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to move my amendment which goes a little far. As I have explained that the principle of taxation is not in conformity in respect of these panchayats.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Sir; the hon. Member should move his amendment first because his amendment as it is, I think is out of order.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY: Sir, I beg to move that the following proviso after clause 2 should be added: Provided that after abolition of the Local Boards the Assam Local Rate as Regulation 1879 stands repealed.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I now want to point out that this amendment is not in order because by this amendment the entire Act is sought to be repealed. So this amendment cannot be entertained.

Mr. SPEAKER: I see, I think it will be out of order.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on the Amendment moved by my Friend Shri Patwari.

The hon. Minister for Local Self-Government says that on one will mind paying four annas provided he gets benefit to compensate. Well I agree. If one knows and becomes quite sure what he will get as benefit for what he pays then he does not mind to pay it. Now the point is we are concerned here, as a matter of fact, not with the question of tax but with the question of rate. Now, rent as we know, includes not only the taxes, direct or indirect, for which anything is accepted from the tax collector of the State but also it includes fees, rates, etc. These the local bodies use to collect and on behalf of our provision now collecting through agency of the Government in lieu of certain services which the local bodies have been rendering to the public. The position of the Government here is only that of the agent on behalf of the local bodies. Now therefore when the question of either reduction or abolition or enhancement of that local rates come, the real entity, the entity of the bodies which should first make payment or feel the necessity is the local bodies. Now for whom does the bell tolls? For whom does the Minister propose to have this enhanced rate? If I have heard him aright, it is for the panchayats, the panchayat which have not yet come into being but which are now being conceived and will come into being after some months. Now we do not know what these panchayats will be—whether male or female or whatever that might be, and we do not know what their demands and requirements will be because however much the parents might be thinking to have a male child, the child might ultimately turn out to be a female one. So the question is when the Panchayats will come into being.....

Mr. SPEAKER : Hon. member should confine to the clause where the question of decreasing of 25 N. P. to 13 N. P. arises. He could discuss these thing at the time of introducing the bill. In the consideration stage, the hon. Member should do well if he confines himself to the amendment, i. e., amendment relating to the reduction from 25 N. P. to 13 N. P.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I do not favour increasing of local rates from 13 N. P. to 25 N. P. The existing one is considered as best. I am speaking about what the Minister, Local Self-Government suggested in the amendment and what he expected it to be. Now it is a transitional stage. When we shift from one position to another, when the Local Boards are going to be replaced by the Panchayats, it may not be appropriate time to abolish or to pass as my friend Shri Prabhat Narayan Chaudhury had suggested that this bill should be done away with. What I want to say is that I do not want that 25 N. P. should be imposed as tax instead of 13 which will be another burden to the poor people. The Minister says that he will be required to pay to the Panchayat from this enhanced rate to and as such he asserts that this enhanced rate will be required. Here I have raised the question that at this stage there is no certainty that this rate will be properly distributed as the Panchayats are not coming into being as yet. We are also not sure as to how much the people will be benefited by paying this enhanced local rates. Of course the Minister promises better services, but we do not know whether at the

material time this assurances will be implemented. We agree to pay even more—why 25 N. P. we will pay 50 N. P. if we really get better services. Sir, we are really astounded to know that Mr. Ahmed has used the word 'insane' while replying to our criticism. I do not find any justification for Mr. Ahmed to use this word. If we are insane, I am afraid there will be no sane man left in this House.....

Mr. SPEAKER : It would be out of place to mention that we have arrived at the consideration stage of the bill in the hon. Member should be confined to clause which gives rise to the decreasing of 25 N. P. to 13 N. P.

Shr GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Mr. Speaker Sir, the Finance Minister says that we are insane. I should say he is rather in abnormality. So far.....

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, Order. I desire that the hon. Member should confine his speech to the clause only particularly to the local rate. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to "Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly."

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : It is a question of raising the local rate from 13 N. P. to 25 N. P. and I think the Rules and Procedure is also opposed to that. This bill I think is still in the proposal stage and I think it is just and correct to discuss the amendment advanced by the Finance Minister now.

Mr. SPEAKER : While we discuss something in this House, we must keep the object in view as I already said. hon. Member is an experienced Parliamentarian and I hope he will confine his discussions to the clauses specified otherwise our discussion will not be in order.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : The point is this. We should confine our discussion to the important clauses. This is an important clause. Shri Patwari also took a legal stand to oppose this amendment. As already stated, this enhancement of local rate from 13 N. P. to 25 N. P. will be an increasing burden to the people.

Mr. SPEAKER : If the Speaker is satisfied that there is repetition in one's observation, under the rule that is not permitted.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : So far as relevancy is concerned.....

Mr. SPEAKER : I am afraid the hon. Member is taking the time of the House. I said only about repetition.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : So far as repetition is concerned I have nothing to say, but so far as relevancy is concerned, with all humility I would say that what I said I have said with all relevancy, because what we have seen for the last one year is that the Local Boards are in a condition of flux. Nothing has particularly been done or could be done by the Local Boards because they did not know where they stood and how long they would stand at all. What has,

happened so far as any developmental work is concerned? Everything was kept in abeyance and some of the bills that had to be paid by the Local Boards to different parties, to different contractors for supplies give or work done in the past could not be paid. There are some Local Boards where even payments to staff could not be made. For example, the North Lakhimpur Local Board did not have sufficient money even to make the first payment of the first charge, namely, payment of their staff, not to speak of anything like construction of road, digging of wells or giving funds to the Middle English Schools or keeping the hats in proper condition, etc. So far as schools are concerned, as the School Boards were formed they were already taken away from the hands of the Local Boards and there is now very little work in the hands of the Local Boards. Therefore so long as these rules under the Panchayat Bill are framed, so long as these rules are studied by this House and also opinions thereon are given by the people, so long as the various proposals that are in the Panchayat Bill are put into action it would be too premature to say what will be the fate of the Panchayat Act. As my friend Mr. Upadhaya has said, experience of some sister States in this respect has not been happy. I do not know how far this report is correct. While I do not want to throw cold water on the enthusiasm of our Local Self-Government Minister, I also want to say that there is no reason why we should be over enthusiastic or over optimistic. He has said that all hopes now rest with the so called projects, community projects, development blocks, etc. Sir, we have had experience of these things for the last few years. When these institutions were ushered in that time all these tall talks were given. On the floor of this very House it was assured that this National Extension Service would bring almost a millenium to the country. Now of course that Minister is not in charge of these institutions, a new Minister has come. He said whatever was done in the past that was all wrong and all over hopes were belied. Now he has come almost like a Messayh and now he will save the situation. (Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed : I did not say like that). We cannot be sure that all the promises that were made will be fulfilled. I may give you my best wishes but I cannot be sure that all these will be fulfilled. I may give my best of co-operation, if the target will be reached then of course I shall have no objection, whether the people are made to pay 13 or 30 Naya Paisa. If that cannot be done, what is the good of keeping the target now at a rate which is higher than the existing one, a rate which is higher than what was envisaged in the previous Act? Perhaps the framing of the rules will have to go through necessary legal process. Therefore this will take some time. In the meanwhile there may be another session. Why cannot we wait till then so that we may clearly assess as to what will be the requirements of the local Self-Governing instructions, namely the Panchayats. This haste which has been shown by the Local Self-Government Minister is an unreasonable haste. I shall not use the epithet which he was pleased to use, I would only say that this haste is not a reasonable one. So I support the amendments moved by my friends because these amendments actually cater to the situation that exists now. These amendments neither seek to cut down what exists now nor seek to raise over it. These amendments want to maintain the *status quo*. I think at this stage when we have not shifted to the other position if one choose to continue the *status quo* for the time being, that should not be wrongly interpreted; nobody should be very touchy when this sort of amendments are brought.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri) :—I have an amendment along with Shri Patwari. It is this : "Substitute the words "twenty-five" occurring between the words "of" and "naye" in line 2 by the word "thirteen"

So far as the old rate is concerned I have no objection, but so far as the new rate is concerned I strongly object to this raising from 13 to 25 naya paise. Our Finance Minister said it is not a tax but a rate. But the term tax includes any burden put on the back of the common man. Government in the budget did not give any indication that there would be any proposal for a new taxation, so far as we could know there was no motive on the part of the Government for any further taxation. But what happens now? Only a few days have passed that Government has now come by the backdoor to tax the people. So I submit that these amendments before the House should be accepted.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, even at the risk of being characterised as one who indulges in cheap propaganda, I have the distasteful duty of opposing this tax. If for opposing this tax I am to side with those people, who do not belong to the saner side of the House, I would rather do so.

Sir, when I opposed the tax I did so as a conscientious objector and I thought that the Minister-in-charge would not use such harsh words that we are trying to play to the people outside, we are trying to indulge in cheap propaganda and so on and so forth. I have valid reasons for opposing this tax pure and simple; it can not be called a fee or rate, so long as nothing is done for the people. Therefore, it is a tax on people, who are already hard-pressed. This tax will be paid not by the town-dwellers but by the people in the villages. It may be easily said that two annas in a rupee is nothing, but I say it is a lot for those people who are not even capable of paying their land revenue and who come to the Revenue Minister almost every time for remission. For them to pay four annas in place of two annas is, I think, the unkindest cut of all. Sir, I have calculated the figures. If we take the figure of land revenue at two crores of rupees by this tax we will be able to collect about 25 lakhs of rupees and we have a revenue surplus of more than 80 lakhs of rupees. Now if we had given a start to the Panchayats by even giving 25 lakhs from our revenue surplus, that would have been appreciated by the people and would have made the Panchayats popular. Then by doing some work for a year or two, we might have gone to the next step and if we had told the people then that local rate should be increased in order to continue the good work, I think the people would have appreciated the position. But without doing anything as my friend said, before a daughter is born we think of her marriage, before giving a start to the Panchayats if we levy this tax, I am not sure how this will be received by the people.

Mr. SPEAKER : He said, he was not quite sure whether it would be a boy or girl.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA (Gauhati) : It may be eunuch also. Our Government is expected to produce such a thing.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : So, before we know how the Panchayats would be received by the people, what will be their actual character, it will be unwise to levy this tax. Even this 25 lakhs of rupees will not be sufficient to finance the primary Panchayats. We shall have to fall back upon our State resources. So, first of all, let these Panchayats grow, let them do something, let the people feel that these are really necessary and essential for them and let them feel that these constructive works they should also make their contribution. Then Government may come forward

with this enactment to increase the local rate and I will support them. But at this movement, before doing these things if we go and tell the people that they should pay increased local rate because Panchayats are coming, I am afraid, Sir, the people will say this is wrong and the Panchayats will become unpopular. Therefore, in order to give a good start to the Panchayats we oppose this measure. We do so after a good deal of thinking and not to have any cheap popularity. After all we can indulge in these things at the time of election and at other times. Therefore, the Minister was wrong in saying that those who constitute the saner elements of the House will support it. Therefore, Sir, I again hope that the Minister will take into consideration this point and will not press the Bill even at this stage.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance)** : Sir, I am really sorry if any observation from me has wounded the feelings of any member of this House. That observation was not intended either for Leader of the Opposition or for my friend Shri Gauri Sankar Bhattacharya, because I never thought for a moment that they were insane people. I was not in the least excited even though I have been fasting the whole day and bearing this burden. If any excitement had been shown, that was by my friend Mr. Bhattacharya. Any how, I am glad that my defective observation, has been able to produce some result. My hon. friends opposed this enactment lock, stock and barrel, but now they are moving to the position that if it is intended to give benefit to the people concerned, they will have no objection whatsoever. Sir, it is with this end in view that this enactment has been proposed. I can give an assurance to my friend here that if we are not able to establish the Panchayats and if we are not able to transfer this increase local rate to the Panchayats—though there will be no other body to whom local rates can be given—I shall refund the entire amount. When the amount goes to the Panchayats it will be utilised by the people and spent for their benefit.

Other questions have been raised about keeping the local boards stranded, not giving them money and so on and so forth. I do not know whether my friends are aware of the fact that though the entire local rate would go to the Rural Panchayats and the local boards will be deprived of this source of income, after consulting the hon. Members of this House, I gave an *ad-hoc* grant to the local boards in lieu of the compensatory grant which they were entitled to get and which they got in the past year. If in spite of that some of the local boards mismanaged their affairs, Government can not be made responsible or liable for that. My friends may have their views about these things, but I can only say that we are sincere in our attempt and we shall make a serious effort to establish the Panchayats as early as possible with the increased local rates and other funds at our disposal so that they may be able to start work during the year and we shall try to bring about some improvement. I hope, Sir, this will satisfy the hon. Member and he will withdraw his amendment. If I have really wounded the feelings of my hon. Friend I sincerely apologise to him. It was never my intention to cast any reflection on him.

Mr SPEAKER : What does the hon. Member proposed to do ?

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery)** : I am not going to withdraw the amendment.

Recess

Mr. SPEAKER : It is 5.30. House is adjourned for recess till 6.30 P. M. Meanwhile, as I have said in the morning, the hon. Members will be their own hosts in the tiffin room.

**Speech not corrected.*

(After recess)

Calling attention to matter of urgent public importance under Assembly Rule 50 regarding a news item published in the Democratic Review 4th April 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : Ordinarily, we will be interrupting the continuing business for calling to attention motion which was fixed at 6.30 p. m. today. In view of that, shall I put the question and get the Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959 passed.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur)** : We can wait for that. The calling attention motion may be taken up now.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Jahan Uddin Ahmed.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara)** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you that you have very kindly allowed my motion regarding the newspaper item published in the Democratic Review of Shillong on the 4th of April under the caption "A Minister slaughters Democracy—High Court's severe stricture on P. W. D. Minister—Government to pay fine and other penalties". Sir, as far as we can understand from this newspaper item that even after this news item was published, nothing was heard from the Government to contradict it. Although it was published on the 4th of April, my information is that even the Publicity Department of the Government wanted to know from the Government whether they have got] any contradiction to this news item. In view of this, Sir, we presume that the news item is true. Sir, when our Government have got a Publicity Department they could have at least contradicted the news within these four days that the news is not true. Sir, at the beginning I would like to submit that after this news item was published. I have tried to find out what was the matter behind it. So far as my information goes, the three ferries at Silanipani were settled illegally by the P. W. D. Minister himself. The settlement was like this Sir. There were three or four bidders. The highest bidder was one Biswanath Singh and his bid was Rs. 70,000. The second bidder was one Shri Kishore Singh and bid was Rs. and the last and lowest bidder was Shri Pulin Behari Choudhury and partner, the bid being Rs. 57,000. Generally, Sir, this bid was accepted by the Chief Engineer under the rules and procedure which empower him to accept the bid. But my information is that the Chief Engineer accepted the bid of Shri Biswanath Singh, the highest bidder at Rs. 70,000 but somehow or other this has been manipulated where a private application was made by Shri Pulin Behari Choudhury and partner and his application after the bid was accepted by the Chief Engineer, was made to the P. W. D. Minister praying that they were willing to accept this ferry at Rs. 97,000 and some odd. Sir I do not know whether there is any provision in the law that after the bid has been settled to accept application by way of manipulation to raise the bid by a private application. Sir, it seems that the High Court has very rightly given the judgement against the settlement of this ferry. I do not know who will pay for this illegal action of the Minister for engaging Government Pleaders or Advocate General and I wonder why no legal opinion was taken when we have got our own Legal Branch. I wonder from where this money is going to be paid to the Advocate general or the Government Pleader whoever he may be. So is the case of Nematighat at Jorhat and Nakhandia in Kamrup district. Sir, this case involved not only stricture on the Minister but it has also touched upon the Government exchequer by the Hon'ble High Court. The Hon'ble High Court has set aside the Minister's order and a fine of Rs. 100 was imposed on the Government in each case. How is this, Sir? That Government is to pay fine of Rs. 100 in each case. Whatever it may be this has touched upon the

*Speech not corrected

Government exchequer and why the people should pay for the Minister's illegal action. Then, Sir, interest on the security deposit was also charged. Had it been for the return of security deposit we have nothing to grudge. But who is to pay the 6 per cent interest on the security deposit and from where this money is to be paid. The second thing and last of all, the legal expenses incurred by the parties have to be paid and from where this money is to be paid? Sir, we are in the dark about the whole judgement. I understand that in the Silanipani case the judgement of the High Court was pronounced in December, 1958. It is about 4 months. Then regarding the other two—Nimatighat and Nakhanda—the judgement was passed in February last—that also about 2 months. Sir, I do not know whether Government has received the judgement and Government should have enlightened this House at least after the publication of this news as to how the matter is going on. It is a matter of great regret that even after this publication, we do not hear from the Government anything and even uptill now we have not heard anything. Sir, there are further items in the same newspaper regarding the Steam-roller scandals.

Mr. SPEAKER : Order, order, the hon. Member has given a notice of calling to attention motion which contained certain points and his observation must be confined to these points only.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara) :** All right Sir, and my information goes Sir, that there are some other cases also regarding the Silonipanihat. The offer was made bid by bid this year and the first bidder is Jagadish Prasad Singh who gave a bid of Rs. 78,000, the 2nd is Biswanath Singh with Rs 77,950 and the 3rd is Pulin and partner with Rs. 76,000. But I understand, Sir, that the Minister has ordered without accepting this bid to run the ferry departmentally. But Sir, if the department can run the ferry what was the necessity of putting it to auction. Can the Minister assure us that there will be no loss and that there will be more collection than the highest bid that was given in the auction? Can he take the responsibility on that? I think, Sir, if a through enquiry is made into such illegal auction by forming a Committee of this House. I think it will be a just solution to stop all the illegal auction that is being done or was done by the Hon'ble Minister. If that is done, Sir, the Minister will know the position when to act and when not to act. When the law does not empower them, they should not have acted or manipulated the Act like that illegally. Sir, we will very much like to hear the Government side regarding this publication at least what they have got to say. We further like, Sir, that a copy of judgement be given to each hon. Member to study and see what is the real state of things. With these words, Sir, I will like to hear the Government side. The other friends will speak afterwards and I may be given a chance to reply.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) :** Sir, I also want to participate in this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER : The practice is that the hon. Members who support the motion can speak and other members also can participate and thereafter the Minister will give a reply. The hon. Member who put the motion has only the right to ask for clarification but no right to give a reply. Moreover, time is limited and the discussion should not exceed more than half an hour. Of course that depends on the circumstances of the case and the discretion of the Chair.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHUHY (Nalbari-East):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is very distressing a news not only to the Government but also to the people of the country who are eagerly waiting to know what is the real affairs and as we are responsible to the people we should know the real state of things that has happened. But we have gathered certain thinks which we felt that we have been very much wrong if the judgement of the Hon'ble High Court is true. I am speaking of the Kamlabari-Nimati ferry. The highest bidder was one Shri Purnakanta Saikia who offered Rs. 7,000 and he was allotted the ferry by the District Officer. But by a subsequent order of the Government, the lowest bidder Shri Golok Kalita was given the ferry at Rs. 2,500 and it is the Minister in-charge who is responsible for this. Sir, this settlement is done under certain Act and I want to know definitely whether this comes under the Northern Indian Ferry Act because the ferries are public ferries. If this comes under the Northern Indian Ferry Act, the relevant section of the Act does not permit a discretion on the part of Government. It is only by a public auction that these ferries should be settled. If that be the case, then under what authority has the Government or the Minister intervened in the matter. I am afraid that he has given the order under the Indian Toll Act which is amended by the Assam Act of 1932. There is a provision *viz.*, 7 (A) which gives Government an authority and the discretion and which runs like this—

“7A. It shall be lawful for the Local Government to lease the tolls upon any public road or bridge by public auction from year to year or for a longer period not exceeding seven years on such condition as the Government may deem desirable.

Provided that the lessee shall give security for the due fulfilment of such conditions, and that any sum payable under the lease shall be recoverable as if it were an arrear of land revenue under the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation, 1886.”

And 7B runs like this—

“7B. When the tolls on any public road or bridge have been leased under section 7A, the lessee, and every person employed by the lessee for collecting the tolls, shall be deemed to be, and shall have the same powers and responsibilities as, persons appointed to collect tolls under this Act.” But the relevant section under which leases of these ferries were sold is 7-A of the Northern India Ferries Act, 1878. Section 7-A reads thus:—“The Provincial Government may direct that any public ferry, wholly or partly within the area subject to the authority of a District Council or a District Board or a Local Board in the Province be managed by that Council or Board and thereupon that ferry shall be managed accordingly” and relevant section 8 reads thus:—“The tolls on any public ferry may, from time to time be let by public auction for a term not exceeding five years with the approval of the Commissioner, or by public auction, for any term with the previous sanction of the provincial Government.” Here it is definite that the Commissioner's powers have been delegated to certain authorities and here in this case the Commissioner's power has been delegated to the Chief Engineer. Then again “the lessee shall conform to the rules made in this Act for the management

*Speech not corrected.

and control of the ferry, and may be called upon by the officer in whom the immediate superintendence of the ferry is vested, or, if the ferry is managed by a municipal or other public body under section 7 or section 7A, then by that body, to give such security for his good conduct and for the punctual payment of the rent as the officer or body, as the case may be, thinks fit. When the tolls are put to public auction, the said officer or body, as the case may be, or the officer conducting the sale on his or its behalf, may, for reasons recorded in writing, refuse to accept the offer of the highest bidder and may accept any other bid, or may withdraw the tolls from auction". But in this particular case the Deputy Commissioner was the person who was vested with the authority to sell it. But when the second auction was made settled with a reduced rate for which this State had to lose a good amount of Rs.4,500 and for it also the Government had to lose that amount.

Then again, about the Nakhandra Bridge which was auctioned in 1956 from 1st November 1957 to the end of the financial year, that is 31st March 1958, the highest bidder was one Shri Bhabananda Das who offered Rs.11,000 and the next bidder was one Shri Narayan Chandra Das who offered Rs.10,800, he was given the settlement. But incidentally it is not known how by a Government order sent from here telegraphically it was ordered that it should be settled with the next highest bidder. The reason was not intimated. What happened? The Narayan Ch. Das refused to accept to run the ferry at a rate given. Then Bhabananda Das was tried. He also was reluctant. Then there was an order passed for the resale of the ferry and the resale was held on 25th November 1957 one Robi Chandra bid at Rs.6,550 and when that was the case this Government pursued with Shri Narayan Chandra Das he was asked to pay the difference of Rs.4,250 and he had to seek redress in the Hon'ble High Court. What the Hon'ble High Court's judgment was? The Hon'ble High Court's held that the Minister is responsible for this loss and the Hon'ble High Court had to pass judgment for the fault of the Minister and not for the fault of anybody else and so this Government had to lose a huge amount. Not only that, the Hon'ble High Court was pleased to award Rs.100 as compensation to be paid to him for penalty.

Then again, regarding the Silonipam ferry, my Friend Shri Jahannudin gave a correct picture of the things on which we have to lose to the tune of Rs.30,000. Now, who is responsible for this loss? It is the Minister by his arbitrary action. For the Minister's whimsical action people had to seek redress in the court and the court had to pass stricture order on the Minister. How we the representatives of the people feel in these matters—when we go to our constituencies the people will ask us what our Minister are doing, what shall we reply to them? We want to know definitely from the Minister under what section of the Act he was acting like this. Unless he can give us a satisfactory reply he will be held responsible for the loss of this huge amount of money. Sir, these things have gone to the nook and corner of the State, not only to the nook and corner of the State but to the corner of the entire nation. I hope the Minister will be good enough to justify his action or to resign. That is the demand we are making.

With these words Sir, I resume my seat.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.):** Mr. Speaker Sir, may I crave your indulgence to make a submission. My statement which I propose to make here has been prepared and along with it are

Speech not corrected.

attached the three judgments of the Hon'ble High Court is respect of the Silonlipam Ghat, Neamati-Kamalabari and Nakanda Bridge. It will be convenience for the hon. Members to understand and appreciate the issues.....

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** We want to hear the Minister make his statement.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.):** If my statement is circulated amongst the members, I think it will help them to appreciate the position.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think it is customary to stop the proceedings of the House for distributing papers. The hon. members may take the copies afterwards.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** Thank you Sir. Now, my second request is to allow the Deputy Minister to read out the statement. I thought that I would be able to make the statement myself but unfortunately this influenza is still on me and even now I am having temperature.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, that can be arranged because even the date was fixed to suit the Minister's convenience.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** Now, I would only say a few words regarding the points raised by Shri Jahanuddin. To start with, Sir, I would submit to this hon. House, what appeared in the paper on all the five items are gross distortion of truth and they are mostly maliciously false insinuation.

I will deal with them one by one. Both the hon. Members stated that it appeared four days back and Government or the Publicity Department did not take note of it. Opinion may differ, but perhaps Government would think twice before taking notice of such scurrilous letters, otherwise there will be no end to it. Jahanuddin Sahab's speech firstly sounded to me as being briefed for a particular person the lessee. I hope I may be wrong. I would request the other hon. Members to through the record of the speech to see if it does not sound like that. Secondly, he talked of 'fine'. Perhaps the hon. Member believed what he saw in the paper to be true. But, Sir, I have no grudge against Jahanuddin Sahab or anybody, because there is an old saying that one can only look at one's own level.

Sir, my Friend Shri Prabhat Narayan seems to enunciate when he said that Government has no power. He quoted certain Sections and he quoted the wrong Sections, but I am liable to be wrong. He seemed to have said that Government has no power in the matter of settlement of a Ferry Ghat. But, Sir, here the Government has a big responsibility for the safety of the public.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY:** I will clarify the matter, Sir.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** If he wants to do so, I have no objection, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: If necessary, that may be given afterwards.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.):** Now, Sir, the Government has a grave responsibility towards the public for their convenience and safety. Therefore, everybody cannot be settled with an important Ghat. Another point was why Government was running it at a loss. The bid was considerably low. Government tried to run the Solinipar ghat itself. If loss has to be borne, it has to be borne; after all Government cannot settle such an important ferry with anybody and every body. Government has a responsibility—a grave responsibility towards the members of the public. The same things happen with regard to Nismati Ghat. I will not deal with it. What I mean to say is that no Government can undertake to give such an important ferry to a man whom it does not consider to be suitable for running and managing a Ferry. That thing is always there. Finally the Minister has been mentioned more than once. The Minister is indirectly concerned, Sir, in as much as he is the head of the Department. Therefore, he is responsible there.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara):** Has the Hon'ble Minister got the power to accept or reject it?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** The hon. Member is a lawyer. It will certainly profit him if he studies the laws. Now, what I submit is that with regard to Cases in High Court one party gain, another party lose. These are not big matters. Government will be spending a big sum of money—we are not going to the Supreme Court, but that does not mean to say that we may or may not win, since we know, Sir, in respect of a Case—where the late lamented Sir Ashutosh Mukherji was the Chief Justice—the Privy Council turned down a Judgment and therefore, it cannot be said that Sir Ashutosh Mukherji did not know law or committed the error. These are to be considered. Any way, I submit the hon. Members the representatives of the people will consider all these things in the bigger interest of the people. That is my submission to the House. I would humbly submit that corruption is bad. Corruption is the biggest enemy of Indian Democracy, but it is also seemingly trying to believe certain false things which helps nobody.

I will not read the judgment, Sir. It will be circulated afterwards.

About the Timber Treating Plant, it has come out in the front page of the paper.

Mr. SPEAKER: As the hon. Members gave notice with regard to Ghats, so the Hon'ble Minister may confine his reply to that only. It will not be within the purview of the question raised by them.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** May I point out, Sir, as the Hon'ble Minister wants to clarify that, point it will be better, if he does so.

Mr. SPEAKER: The subject matter is a High Court Judgment, relating to settlement of certain Ferries. For clarifying the other points, it

may be taken up on certain other occasions, because under the rules only those points which have been raised, may be replied to. If I open the door of discussions, it will be almost like flood gates.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.):** But so far as I remember, I may be wrong with the permission of the chair, it may be replied to.....

Mr. SPEAKER: For that the Hon'ble Minister will have to take another occasion.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara):** On a point of information, may I know Sir, from the Hon'ble Minister, whether there any provision under the law to receive fresh application by Government after the completion of the bid? If there is any such provision, it may be referred.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMA (Minister, P. W. D.):** There is no bar. I would humbly request the hon. Member to study law.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order.

I do not think it is proper to question any hon. Member about his knowledge of law. If the Hon'ble Minister does not want to give the facts to the House, he can do so, but he should not ask the Hon'ble Minister to study the law.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED:** I do not know law, Sir, but I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister.

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Dy. Minister): In running the ferry directly on Government account, the department has to incur an expenditure 1,05,000 including the expenses involved in running the ferry, maintenance of the ferry approaches and the depreciation cost of the ferry equipment. It was, therefore considered in the interest of Public revenue to accept this new offer with the concurrence of Finance.

4.1 KAMALABARI-KOKILAMUKH FERRY

This Brahmaputra ferry was long enjoyed by a work party now represented by Shri Harikishore Prasad Singh. They plied a small steamer (either Kamakhya or Egret) and the tendered amount was nominal of the tune of Rs.7,000/8,000 or so per annum.

There were innumerable complaints about these two steamers from the public particularly against Kamakhya, as there were very old vessels and could not be plied frequently during high floods in the Brahmaputra. Moreover, trucks and buses could not be carried by these steamers. With the increase of military traffic with heavy vehicles in this ferry during last year or so, these two small steamers became almost useless.

In these circumstances, Government looked out for suitable crafts for this ferry. The lessee knowing of this, served notice on 8th August, 1958 Public Works Department that if they were not granted further six months' extension, they would stop running the ferry with the period of time already extended to them. Government objected to this and desired them to ply the ferry for the period already granted pending consideration of further extension. The Lessee however, suddenly stopped the ferry without any prior intimation on the morning of 24th August 1958, causing serious dislocation, with a view to put the Government in an awkward situation and to

**Speech not corrected*

inconvenience the public. The Government with great difficulty continued to run this important ferry.

Thereafter sealed tenders were called for by the Government for settlement of the Kamalabari Kakilamukh/Neamati Ferry by Government for the period of 6 months with effect from 1st October 1958 on the condition that two engined Marboats and one engined single boat will be supplied to the Lessee by Government and two engined single boats shall have to be provided by the Lessee (*vide* the Gazette Notification dated 27.8.58). Tenders were received and opened at 2.30 P.M. on 16th September 1958. Six tenders were received as follows—

					Rs.
(1)	Shri Drona Kanta Saikia	..	...	...	1,800
(2)	„ Golok Kolita	...	...	...	2,500
(3)	„ Narayan Chandra Bhorali for Majuli United Co-operative.				3,500
(4)	„ Uma Ram Saikia of Garamar Majuli			...	3,000
(5)	„ Harikishore Prasad Singh	...	...	...	6,000
(6)	„ Purna Kanta Saikia	...	...	...	7,000

The tenders of Numbers 5 and 6 above were not in accordance with the tender notice due to the fact that they were not prepared to supply two engined single boats as stipulated in the notice. Both (No.5 Shri Hari Kishore Prasad Singh and No.6 Shri Purna Kanta, Saikia a School Pandit) offered one and the same vessel *viz.* Egret. Tenders of Numbers 3 and 4 above were not considered fit, as on inquiry, it was felt that, they will not be able to arrange the required equipment and run this important ferry properly. They, however, agreed to work with Shri Golok Kalita, if this ferry was settled with him.

Next highest tenderer was Shri Golok Chandra Kalita. He had the necessary equipment and he was known to be capable to run the difficult Brahmaputra ferry efficiently. Accordingly the Government settled the ferry with him (Shri Golok Ch. Kalita with whom were associated other Local persons as stated above).

Against this settlement, Shri Purna Kanta Saikia moved the Hon'ble High Court.

Anyone who goes through the judgment of their Lordships will clearly see that here again, it was a question of interpretation of Section 8 of Northern India Ferries Act and rules framed under it. The Government's point of view was that, if Government could accord sanction to settlement, it could also order settlement, and secondly, Government followed a different procedure allowed under section 8 of the said Act by calling for sealed tenders and for 6 months. Their Lordships however, held that Government's according sanction and Government's ordering settlement are two different functions and in this case the Government had not the right to settle directly. As regards the second point, their Lordships held that if the Government desired to follow a different procedure, that should have been laid down while calling for tenders.

In any case, there was no question of malafide, nor of any stricture, nor of any fine. It is usual practice with the High Court to allow cost in its discretion. In this case an amount of Rs.100 allowed as hearing fee, can be considered as a token one.

5. NAKHANDA TOLL BRIDGE

The Nakhand Toll Bridge was put to public auction for 5 months from 1st November, 1957 to 31st March 1958 and the highest bid was Rs.11,000 given by Shri Bhabananda Das a Caste Hindu. The second highest bid was Rs.10,800 given by Shri Narayan Chandra Das belonging to backward class. As per Government Circular, suitable people belonging to backward class are entitled to get the bridge up to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent less than that of the highest bid, and as such the bridge was settled with the second highest bidder Shri Narayan Chandra Das at his bid of Rs.10,800. When the orders of final settlement were communicated to him, he refused to take charge of the bridge. The Executive Engineer, Barpeta intimated the fact to the Secretary, P. W. D. (R. & B.)

The Secretary, Public Works Department then settled the bridge with the highest bidder Shri Bhabananda Das and orders were communicated to him through the Executive Engineer, Barpeta. The highest bidder Shri Bhabananda Das also refused to take settlement of the bridge. The Secretary, Public Works Department then order to resell the bridge at the risk of Shri Narayan Chandra Das. In the resale the highest bid stood at Rs.6,550 in the name of Shri Rabicharan Das and the bridge was settled with him and Shri Narayan Chandra Das was asked by the Executive Engineer, Barpeta to pay the difference of Rs 4,250 (Rs.10,800 minus Rs.6,550).

When this amount was demanded from Shri Narayan Ch. Das, he submitted one petition praying to exempt him from payment of the difference stating that he is not liable to pay the same, as the bridge was settled with the highest bidder on his refusal to take charge of the bridge. The L. R. was consulted who advised as follows—

“It is admitted that the Toll Bridge was put to auction and the applicant was one of the bidders. The highest bid was offered by one Bhabananda Das but the bridge was finally settled with the applicant (who offered the second bid Narayan Das) and that in pursuance of the Government Policy to give preference to Scheduled Caste people at less than $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the bid by the Caste Hindu people. The applicant refused to accept and as such, he is liable under the terms of the sale notice, to pay the difference of the bid money. He cannot take shelter on the plea that settlement thereafter was offered to the highest bidder without taking any penal action, because the move to settle with the highest bidder was only to avoid taking any penal action against him. He must be grateful to the Department for their attempt to give him relief and he must blame only himself for the failure.”

Sd. D. N. HAZARIKA,
17-6-58.

On the advise of the L. R., the petition was rejected. Shri Narayan Chandra Das then submitted another petition for reconsideration. That was also rejected.

Shri Narayan Chandra Das then moved the Hon'ble High Court. The Hon'ble High Court made the rule absolute with a hearing fee of Rs.100.

It was purely a question of interpretation of the rules, as the judgement will indicate. The Government in pursuance of its policy of giving preference to backward caste candidates, settled the ferry with Shri Narayan Chandra Das at his second highest bid, as his bid came within 7½ per cent of the highest bid. He refused to accept it and Government with legal opinion wanted to realise the difference when the ferry had to be resold. The High Court held that the Government was not entitled to it.

Cyclostyled copies of the three judgements of the Hon'ble High Court are laid on the table to enable the Members to appreciate the points at issue.

Conclusion—

Thus it will appear that in none of the three judgements the award of the Hon. High Court included:

“severe stricture on the P.W.D. Minister”

“a fine of Rs.100 for each case”

“return of security deposit together with 6 per cent interest thereon”

The flashed securrility on the front page of the usually unnoticed “Democratic Review” of 4th April 1959, in this connection, is a designed stunt an offspring of mean politics and corruptions nurtured by lack of journalistic integrity. None should hope to profit by such low tricks.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker Sir, may I be permitted to avail of this opportunity to submit for your consideration in future, whether such Yellow journalism should at all be taken notice of.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): On a point of information, whether the three cases which have become the subject matter of discussion were heard by the Honorable High Court in exercise of its Civil jurisdiction where the question of fine does not arise or its criminal jurisdiction where there may arise the question of fine?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.): These cases were instituted under Art. 226. So no question of fine can at all arise.

Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara): May I know whether Government contemplate to move the Supreme Court if they are correct in law?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: The Supreme Court can be moved, but it is a question of expenses and delay and will not be commensurate with these three small matters. But the same end which the Government think should be achieved in public interest may be achieved by other means and we are taking to those means. There are two courses—one is to go to the Supreme Court, appoint senior and junior Advocates and all these things. There is another way by which Government can achieve the desired results in public interest. So Government is contemplating to take legal advice as to which will be less expensive and less circuitous.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara):** The prestige of the Government is at stake. So if we have got the law behind us, we should move the Supreme Court.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.):** May I add one word? You will be pleased to notice and you know it very well.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Not being a lawyer.....

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** Not even being a lawyer you know more than many of us who are lawyers. If any one looks into the Supreme Court Report he will find that in the Supreme Court all these days there are more cases by or against the States than by or against private parties and in all these cases either the State wins or loses, and losing in a court of law on interpretation of law is not a losing of face. I may refer to the judgment in the fishery case. So in these cases there is not an iota of fact that my Friend Shri Prabhat Narayan Chaudhury has to bluff in the village as to what has happened. Let him read the judgment and our statement with an unbiased mind.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** I heard the hon. Minister almost saying—

“যি হৈছে, হৈছে মোৰেই হৈছে তাত আনৰ কি?”

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** মই তেনে ধৰণৰ কথা নাই কোৱা।

No, I have never said that.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY:** In the written statement presented by the Deputy Minister on behalf of the Minister.....

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** Read for and on behalf of me.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY:** I want to know under what interpretation and under what law he committed this blunder. He wants to say this is merely a case of interpretation.

What is that particular thing he interpreted and what was the mistake in his interpretation? I want to know that.

Now, in respect of the Nokhonda bridge, he wanted to justify the settlement by saying that it was settled with a member of the backward community and the rules permitted such settlement at 7½ per cent less than the highest bid. I agree. But when it went up to the High Court, where did that interpretation vanish? In respect of realisation of rent also, his bid was Rs.10,800, which was accepted though he was entitled to under the rules to get at 7½ per cent of the highest bid, which was Rs.11,000. Then he was asked to pay the balance of Rs.4,250. What was the justification? If he could prove his case in the Court, nothing could be said against the Minister, but he failed. Also about Kamalabari and Neamatighat, the Deputy Minister said that there was a condition that the lessees should supply two engined single boats. I want to know whether this condition was there in the advertisement or it was imposed later.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED:** On a point of information, Sir...

Mr. SPEAKER : Let the hon. Minister reply to the points raised by Mr. Chaudhury first.

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla):** Can a member speak twice, Sir? The Rule says that the member who has given notice may make a short statement and the Minister shall reply shortly, and any member who has previously intimated to the Speaker may be permitted to take part in the discussion. But can the hon. Member, who has given notice, speak twice?

Mr. SPEAKER : There is always room for clarification, but not a second speech.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P.W.D.):** Sir, I did not mean to offend Mr. Jahanuddin Ahmed on that occasion. I said it would be profitable for us to read law. He also is a lawyer and we both belong to the same profession. Today I am a Minister, but tomorrow both of us may appear in the Court for opposite sides. But my difficulty with Shri Prabhat Narayan Chaudhury is immense, if he would pardon me for saying so. Sir, as practising lawyers, we take money from our clients and give them satisfaction by our work. But there is a class of "Bam Ukils". They brief us in respect of cross-examination, in respect of getting certain orders, etc. If we say that this point is not relevant we are at great pains. Therefore, the points raised by Shri Prabhat Narayan Chaudhury, though seemingly relevant, do not relate to law.

Mr. SPEAKER : His question was what was the authority under which this was done. He wanted to know what was the Act under which this was done.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** Northern Indian Ferries Act, Section 8 read with rules. Let me illustrate by referring to a particular case, viz., Neamatighat case. We thought that since we called for tender for six months only we could get ourselves away from the clutches of Section 8. The High Court says "No, even then you cannot do it. You should have laid down what procedure the C. E. should follow at the time or before calling for tenders". These are legal niceties, where people disagree. Here also, we see that a point of order is raised, other members oppose the contention and you are pleased to give a Ruling. Similarly, the High Court gives a Ruling. It goes to the Supreme Court and they either uphold the Ruling or they do not. In Court one party wins and another loses. The question is whether anything occurred due to *mala fides* on the part of the Department or anybody.

As regards the Silonipam case, we thought we got Rs.10,000 on the top of the highest bid. It is not a regular ferry. The ferry is managed by Government; only the collection of tolls is made by the contractors just as in road bridges.

***Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHAUDHURY (Nalbari-East):** Does he mean to say that provision of road bridges applies here also?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, P. W. D.):** I thought the collection of tolls apart from the management of the ferry, was parallel to road bridges. But the High Court thought otherwise and we bowed down to High Court's orders. It was only a question of interpretation of law.

Sir, may I make a last request to you regarding these two maliciously libelous things, viz., the Timber Treatment Plant and Road Rollers. The Speaker has wide powers. Can he please allow me to make the position clear?

Mr. SPEAKER: My difficulty is that I am a servant of the rules.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** But they give a long handle to the Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: The rule is clear: "A statement may be made by a Minister on a matter of public importance with the consent of the Speaker but no question shall be asked at the time the statement is made". This is a matter on which clarifications can be asked, but that is a matter on which nothing can be said. The Minister can only make a statement and go away.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** If I make a request to you here and now? It may take another ten minutes only.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think we will wait for another occasion.

***Maulavi JAHANUDDIN AHMED (Bilasipara):** On a point of clarification, Sir, the Deputy Minister in his statement said that the Government passed orders. May I know who passed the order? The Minister or the C. E.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** In the Neamatighat case, orders were passed by the C. E. In Nakhanda case also, the C. E. passed orders. But in the Silonipamghat case, I passed orders. My orders were read out.

Resumption of discussion on Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Hareswar Goswami may resume his speech.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): The only thing left is to put the motion to vote.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will put the amendment standing in the name of Mr. Patwari. The question is: the words "twenty-five" be substituted by the word "thirteen".

The question is that the amendment moved by Shri Hiralal Patwari be accepted. The hon. Members will rise in their seats. The result is the Noes are 56 and the Ayes 13. The amendment is lost.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

*Speech not corrected

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a most oppressive piece of legislation, particularly, the enhancement of local rates when the prices of foodgrains are going up and the people are made to pay the bulk of the local rates. I think this taxation will hit the masses who are the reapers of our harvest. It will not hit the town dwellers but those in the villages. I hope Government will take this factor into account before passing this piece of legislation. Sir, I find it very difficult to persuade myself to agree with the hon. Minister that this enhancement of the local rates will help the people because the Panchayats will be able to use the funds of for development works. If this argument is accepted, then there should be no difficulty to finance the embankments and drainage. In reality this argument is not going to convince our people. Moreover, it is to be seen that when the local rate was enhanced from 2 annas to 3 annas the whole of the country agitated and now when the local rate is going to be enhanced from 3 annas to 4 annas the people will surely agitate. This will hit the poor people of the State and in every district we will find that the people come forward with application for remission because their capacity to pay has gone down and prices of the produce of industries have gone up. There cannot be a parity of prices received by the farmer and paid by him and this is most unfavourable to the peasantry. So this Bill, if it is passed into law, will affect the rural economy of the country. We have seen that in almost all cases the Government were attaching the homesteads of the poor peasants. So the consequence of this piece of legislation is not to provide good finance for the Local Bodies or the Panchayats to do good to the people. The result will be that the money will pass on the speculators or richer sections of the people. We, therefore oppose the passing of this Bill.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, within two hours I have taken my stand to speak on this Bill for three times and I do so with sufficient amount of reason at my command. Mr. Ahmed, the Minister-in-charge said that if he finds that the money is not utilised for the constructive work, if the Panchayats do not take to constructive work—the local rates that will be collected will be refunded. I take my stand to oppose this Bill on this ground. If Mr. Ahmed considers that it will be possible for him to refund the money, I do not see any reason why this Bill should not be dropped now and wait till we find that the Panchayats will be doing real work for the people. Let the people feel that some work has not been done for want of money, then they will come forward with money. But instead of refunding the money if work is not done, the better course will be not to collect the money at this moment. Let the Panchayats come into being and let them start the work and when the people feel convinced that it is necessary to give money for the Panchayats then they will be ready to pay the tax. I am not convinced that the money that will be required in this work will not be available from our general fund. I am not convinced that this 25 lakhs of rupees, or whatever amount it may be, will help immensely the Panchayats in doing their work and until I feel convinced that the money is really needed, I do not want to be with the Government in passing this Bill. Instead, I want that when to-day the people are going through a serious economic crisis, when the people are being robbed both by the Government as well as by the greedy money lenders, traders and other people, to have a monetarium, if I may say so. Let there be no taxation. We have promised to the people at the time of

introducing the Budget that there will be no taxation and if to-day we say that there is going to be a taxation, then the people will not believe us so much. Sir, as I have said, at this moment, it is not necessary to have this Bill. This Bill will only create an ill feeling towards the Panchayats. The people will run with an idea that because of the Panchayats they have been forced to pay 4 annas per rupee. I want to convince Mr. Ahmed that 4 annas to a villager per rupee means a lot. When they have to pay so many other taxes and when they have to pay higher prices for their daily necessities of life, 4 annas means a lot. Therefore, in the name of the suffering people and in the name of those people who really need a relief from taxation, I again request Government not to go ahead with the Bill but wait till the Panchayats come into being. Moreover, we are meeting again in June or July or September and if by that time we feel that it is necessary to have the Bill, I for one will give Mr. Ahmed an assurance that we will not stand in the way and see that the Bill is passed. With these words I oppose the Bill and I request Mr. Ahmed again to think about it.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi) : Sir, this Motion has been discussed by the House and therefore, I beg to move under Rule 287 that the question be now put.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gaubati) : Sir, there can be a debate as to whether this Closure Motion is justified and if he has brought a Closure Motion, I want to speak on it.

Mr. SPEAKER : I know about the Closure Motion because I have moved it in my time myself. Has the hon. Member moved the Closure Motion?

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : Yes Sir.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : As a matter of fact Sir, to a certain extent I agree with Mr. Hazarika. So far as the point which is covered by the present Bill is concerned, that has been discussed by this House and I think the House was benefited by that discussion. If the Minister so pleases, he may clarify his side of the thing and if the Minister does not want to reply, I have no objection to accept the Closure Motion of my Friend, Shri Hazarika.

Mr. SPEAKER : Rule 287 says—

“At any time after a motion has been made, any member may move : “That the question be now put” and, unless it appears to the Speaker that the motion is an abuse of the rules or on infringement of the right of the reasonable debate, the Speaker shall then put the motion : “That the question be now put”. If this motion is carried, the Speaker shall then put the question after allowing the mover and the Minister to whose department the matter relates to speak in the manner laid down in sub-rule (3) of Rule 283.

So the motion has been moved by the hon Member.
The question is that “The Question be now put”.

(After a pause)

(The motion is carried)

So I put the main question. The question is that the Assam Local Rates (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

The House Divided

Aycs—48

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. | 25. Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda. |
| 2. Shri Rup Nath Brahma. | 26. Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwala. |
| 3. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathy. | 27. Prof (Shrimati) Komol Kumari Barua. |
| 4. Shri Hareswar Das. | 28. Shri Lila Kanta Borah. |
| 5. M. Moinul Haque Choudhury. | 29. Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta. |
| 6. Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika. | 30. Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury. |
| 7. Capt. Williamson A. Sangma. | 31. Shri Manik Chandra Das. |
| 8. Shri Biswadev Sarma. | 32. Shri Mahananda Bora. |
| 9. Shri Radhika Ram Das. | 33. Shri Mohi Kanta Das. |
| 10. Shri Larsingh Khyriem. | 34. Shri Molia Tati. |
| 11. Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi. | 35. Shri Moti Ram Bora. |
| 12. Shri A. Thanglura. | 36. Shri Nanda Kishore Sinha. |
| 13. Shri Sai Sai Terang. | 37. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma. |
| 14. Shri Bishnu Lal Upadhyaya. | 38. Shri Omeo Kumar Das. |
| 15. Shri Dandeswar Hazarika. | 39. Shrimati Padma Kumari Go-hain. |
| 16. Shri Dandi Ram Datta | 40. Shri Purnananda Chetia. |
| 17. Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika. | 41. Shri Radha Charan Chau-dhury. |
| 18. Shri Dhirsing Deuri. | 42. Shri Radha Kishan Khemka. |
| 19. Shri Durgeswar Saikia. | 43. Shri Rajendra Nath Barua. |
| 20. Dr. Ghanashyam Das. | 44. Shri Ramnath Sarma. |
| 21. Shri Gouri Shankar Roy. | 45. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami. |
| 22. Shri Hem Chandra Chakra-varty. | 46. Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi. |
| 23. Shri Indreswar Khaund. | 47. Shri Siddhi Nath Sarma. |
| 24. Shri Joga Kanta Barua. | 48. Shri Surendra Nath Das. |

Noes—15

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Shri Biswanath Upadhyaya. | 9. U Jor Manik Siem of Myllem. |
| 2. Shri Gourisankar Bhattacharjee. | 10. Shri Mathias Tudu. |
| 3. Shri Ghanashyam Talukder. | 11. Shri Nilmoney Borthakur. |
| 4. Shri Gopesh Namasudra. | 12. Shri Prabhat Narayan Chaudhury. |
| 5. Maulavi Jahan Uddin Ahmed | 13. Shri Kumar Prakritish Chandra Barua. |
| 6. Shri Hareswar Goswami. | 14. Dr. Srihari Das. |
| 7. Shri Hiralal Patwary. | 15. Shri Tarun Sen Dekka. |
| 8. Rev. J. J. M. Nichols-Roy. | |

(The question was adopted)

Presentation of the Second Report of the Committee on Government Assurance.

Shri RAM NATH DAS (Chairman, Assurance Committee): Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to present the second Report of the Committee on Government Assurance.

The Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI** (Deputy, Minister, Public Works Department etc.): Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR** (Dibrugarh): Mr. Speaker Sir, we find this amending Bill seeks to amend section 37 of the Assam Municipal Act 1956. It is a most undemocratic piece of legislation proposed by the Government because by this amendment of the Act it is sought to withdraw power from the people when, generally, the people should be given more and more power to develop themselves. Now Sir, is it in the fitness of things when now we are trying to give more power to the Panchayats in the villages but at the same time to try to restrict that power from the Municipal Boards or the Town Committees in urban areas? As a matter of fact it is time that Government should try to give more power to the Municipal Boards or Town Committees, so that they can take up measures to develop their towns. But, as I have said, this new amendment seeks to restrict that power by imposing an Executive Officer on these bodies in the urban and suburban areas. Now, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that the parent Act empowers a Municipal Board or the State Government to appoint an Executive Officer. In some cases where certain Municipal Boards have not been able to function properly it is quite correct to have such an officer. But there are other Municipal Boards where we have to rely more on the wisdom or conscience of the people as to whether such Executive Officer is necessary or not. It is the people who will decide if the Municipal Board is not functioning properly or does not act up to the needs of the people, they can replace it be an other. But now that right of the people is sought to be taken away.

*Speech not corrected.

Then again, curiously enough the rules which the Act envisages to be framed under section 53 of the Act have not been framed up till now, the rules for working out the Act have not been finalised and for that reason elections have been deferred. But in spite of that this amendment is proposed which in my opinion will not serve the interest of the Municipal Boards. Take the case of Shillong. Before proper supersession of the Board the Government imposed an Executive Officer on it which, strictly speaking, they are not able to do unless and until the Rules under section 53 are framed. Now even though that Executive Officer was imposed on this Capital town of Shillong, have thing improved? Definitely not. For one full month after this Officer was appointed the position of the Shillong town has not improved. Collection of taxes remain as before conservancy and other services are not satisfactory, sanitation of the town is still in a sickening condition, the position of water supply has not improved; the roads are not being repaired and kept clean. The civic amenities which the people of this capital city expected of the Shillong Municipalities are not being enjoyed by the people—the people are not getting it. The appointment of the Executive Officer has not improved thing, rather the position was worsened. Even the Executive Officer has not prepared the Budget and placed it before the State Government. Now, if a particular Board could not function properly the proper course would have been to dissolve it and fresh election ordered to be held. But it is not necessary to curtail the power of the Chairman who has a dual function—Chairman of the Board and the functions in respect of the School Board. Now the Executive Officer, because he is appointed by the State Government he is responsible to the State Government and at the same time the Municipal Act provides that the Executive Officer will be responsible to the Municipality. Now as the Executive Officer will for all intents and purposes function as an agent of the State Government, there will be constant friction and quarrel. So by this amendment it not only seeks to curtail the powers of the elected Board, it will practically take away the democratic right of the people, it will worsen the position. It is not going to succeed. We also doubt the sincerity of the Government. If the Government feels that some Municipalities are not functioning properly, the appointment of Executive Officers are essential to help them to function properly, but what about the Karimganj Municipality? A written representation was submitted, signed by some M. L. A.'s of the district against the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipality, but in that case no Executive Officer was appointed. Money was given for water supply, but no plan could be prepared—it was refunded. Neither any Executive Officer was appointed nor any action was taken against the Chairman, presumably because the Chairman of the Municipality turned his coat. Now it is provided in the rules that the Chairman shall not exercise any power; it should be exercised by the Executive Officer where such officer is appointed under Section 53 of the Act. But simply adjusting the rules, giving power to the Executive Officer by the State Government, the State Government has failed to show any improvement. If the Government feel convinced that the Municipal Board cannot function, that they are not likely to function properly, the Act may be repealed, and that may provide for giving Executive Officer through the elected Board, but through this Bill we can not secure that purpose. That has not been stated. There should have been provision to democratise the Municipal Board, i. e., to give them more power. The Assam Municipal Act, 1923—it is an improvement—franchise right has been given, but even then adult franchise has not been recognised in the 1956 Act. That could have ensured the right of voting to the permanent dwellers of the Municipality. Only by that way the defects could have been corrected. If we

analyse, every Board from Shillong to Dibrugarh—all Boards function more or less the same way. In the Act there is a provision that the Municipal Board can appoint an Executive Officer. The best thing would have been for the Government to provide that the Executive Officer is appointed by the Board and approved by the Government. That would have given scope to test the genuineness of the Government. Let every Municipal Board appoint the Executive Officer. They would choose such an officer which may be approved by the Government to ensure the quality of the Executive Officer. If the amendment came in that direction, there would not have been the difficulty. Here the amendment curtails the power of the elected body—it curtails the democratic right of the Board. So, we are wholly opposed to this Bill.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am opposed to this Bill for various reasons. Reason No. 1—this Bill is undemocratic; No. 2—that this Bill seeks to cut at the very root of Self-Government institutions; No. 3—this Bill is malafide; it wants to put the seal of legality on an illegal Act which has been brought only with a specific purpose *viz.* the Government committed illegality in respect of the Municipality and just to cover it they want to have this Bill. Now in respect of the Shillong Municipal Board, we find the Government *vide* their letter No. LML.191/58/56, dated the 28th November, 1958 said as follows—

“Whereas the Shillong Municipal Board were asked by Government in their Memo No. LML.191/58/39A, dated the 7th October 1958 to submit an explanation to the various charges of defaults in the performance of duties imposed on Board under the Assam Municipal Act, 1956 (Assam Act XV of 1957);

and whereas the Governor of Assam after the consideration of the explanations submitted by the Board is satisfied that the Board has failed to perform its duties in respect of the following matters, namely:—

1. The Board failed to submit the budget estimates for the year 1958-59 within the statutory period as laid down by the rules
2. The Board failed to reduce the establishment charges as directed by Government from time to time.
3. The Board failed to take sufficient action for the realisation of the arrear taxes.
4. The Board have allowed undue remission of taxes to defaulters and have taken recourse to improper write off of arrears.”

On the above grounds they superseded the Board. Sir, in February, 1956, Government wrote to the Shillong Municipality to appoint an Executive Officer. If they failed to do so by the 31st March, 1958, Government would appoint the Executive Officer. If we go to the Act itself, Section 53 of the Municipal Act provides that the State Government or the Municipal Board can appoint an Executive Officer. Then in Section 37, it is clearly stated that for the purpose of this Act, the Chairman will exercise the executive powers of the Board. Then under Section 53, the appointment of the Executive Officer comes in. Now the Board, I mean the Shillong Municipal Board refused to do so. In a meeting held by the Board they adopted resolution expressing their inability to do so. The rules framed under Section 53—it says that it is necessary that the Executive Officer has to be appointed. How he is to be appointed? Who will be the Executive Officer—all these things are to be regulated by this rule.

They wanted the Shillong Municipal Board to appoint the Executive Officer and that also purely with a political purpose, purely out of party consideration. It may be remembered, Sir, the Chairman of the Municipal Board is the Deputy Commissioner. So far as the question of passing the Budget in time is concerned, it is not the Shillong Municipal Board alone which did not pass the Budget in time, there are many other such Municipalities. Even the Karimganj Municipal Board also did not pass the Budget in time. This matter was referred to the Minister-in-charge but because the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipal Board has got to do something with the party in power, the Congress party, therefore no action was taken whereas action was immediately taken against the Shillong Municipal Board for exactly the same offence because this Board has got to do anything with the Congress Party.

Now, Sir, coming to the establishment charges, as I have already stated, the Deputy Commissioner as the Chairman of this Municipal Board and when he was there as the Chairman, these establishment charges were going on piling up. If we consider the budgets of other Municipal Boards we will find that establishment charges of 99 per cent of these Municipalities will come under this category, and if Government has respect to conformity of principle and professions, all these Municipalities should have been squashed.

Now regarding the charge that no sufficient action was taken to realise the arrears, now here in this Municipality who are the bulk of tax payers, it is definitely the Government which constitute the largest taxpayer of this Municipal Board. If the Government has itself failed to pay the tax, well, it is morally guilty in the eye of law and also in the eye of the public. But because it is the Government which have defaulted therefore instead of taking any action to realise their arrears, instead of taking action against the Government departments which have defaulted, they have taken action against the Municipal Board and they wanted the Board to appoint an Executive Officer. When the Board expressed its inability, in the absence of appropriate rules, to appoint a Chief Executive Officer, Government wanted them to appoint one Chief Executive Officer because a particular person was there and he was unemployed and therefore he should be appointed. And what does the Government say in this respect? The Government stated that an Executive Officer should be allowed to function somehow or other till the rules are finalised on 23rd of September. Sir, from 23rd of September till now, no rules are there. But with a view to cover up their own incompetence they wrote to the Municipal Board that an Executive Officer should be allowed to function somehow or other. Sir, the Minister-in-charge is a lawyer of eminence and he was also at one time the Advocate General of the State and most of the cases he won was legal nicities. But here in this case, the hon. Minister did not bother about the legal nicities here in this particular case, he made them a casualty to expediency and wrote to the Municipal Board, "where there is consent between the Government and the Municipality for public good certain legal nicities need not be enlarged upon." Now the argument for appointment of the Chief Executive Officer is that the Board has committed certain illgalities and therefore the Government by means of this Bill, the executive powers are sought to be divided between the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer. But then there will be conflict and therefore sec. 37 should be amended and what is that amendment: "the following shall be added at the end as the first proviso and the existing proviso shall be treated as the second proviso, namely,—"Provided that

the Chairman shall not exercise any power which shall be exercised under the rules by the Executive Officer where such officer is appointed under sec. 53 of the Act. Now to remove the difficulty of there being any conflict they have brought the amendment in this manner. Sir, my point is that in Shillong at least we want this democratic institution more than in any other place but because this Municipal Board refused to dance to the tune of the party in power, with him who is at the helm of affairs, Government power was immediately invoked to supercede the Municipality and that too without any cogent reason and appointed the Executive Officer and then now they to frame the rules for the purpose. Now in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated : "Section 53 of the Assam Municipal Act, 1956 (Assam Act XV of 1957) empowers a Municipal Board or the State Government to appoint an Executive Officer."

The said section also authorises the State Government to frame Rules regarding the powers, duties and functions of the Executive Officer. These Rules will be in conflict with Section 7 of the Act which practically gives all the executive powers of the Board to a Chairman. It is therefore desirable that Section 37 of the Act should be so amended as to enable Government to define the powers, duties and functions of the Executive Officer without the same being in conflict with the Section."

Now, where is the fault of the Shillong Municipality? The Government in February 1958 wrote to the Shillong Municipal Board to appoint one Executive Officer with the threat that if they failed to do so by 31st March, 1958 the Government would appoint the said Executive Officer. The Shillong Municipal Board at a meeting held in March 1958 adopted a resolution expressing their inability to do so in the absence of any specific rules under Section 53 of the Municipal Act and the Board requested the Government to furnish the rules, if any. But without paying any heed Government stated, "Well, do not bother about legal niceties, if you do not find any rule, we appoint one Executive Officer." Well, when we know that these things are going on, how can we support this Bill? I for one cannot conscientiously be a party to such an illogical, unreasonable piece of legislation prompted by motives other than pure public interest. We know, Sir, there are so many municipal boards in Assam, even the Gauhati Municipal Board itself, where so many illegalities are daily committed, so many bad things have been done, but they are branded or brushed aside as so many bad boys. Therefore when we know all these things have been done, we cannot be a party to this legislation, and therefore, we are opposing this Bill.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the present Bill is an astounding one. It seeks to put the wheel of history in the opposite direction. The cry of our country to-day is for democracy and more democracy. The urban areas have been enjoying an amount of self-government from 1923 onwards and the Constitution wants that these self-governing institutions should be extended even to the rural areas. Therefore Art. 40 of Constitution made it a directive principle that in the rural areas also Panchayats should be organised as units of self-government. While the Constitution wants us to extend the self-governing institutions and to decentralize powers. But this amending Bill wants to take away most of the special powers from the urban areas, i. e., the executive functions, and keep them in the pocket of the Minister for Local Self-Government through the agency of the Executive Officer. This is democracy up-side down. Sir, the Statement of Objects

and Reasons, if I am permitted to say so, is not an honest statement of facts and circumstances and law. Here it has been said that it is only just to remove some legal niceties, just to overcome certain technical difficulties that this Bill is envisaged that is a travesty of truth; the real purpose of the Bill is to divest the elected representatives, *i. e.*, the Municipality of whatever executive power they have and to take it in the hands of the Executive Officer to be appointed by the Government. And the way in which the elected representatives of the Municipality is sought to be treated even for the present is a most insulting one. What has been said is that in the first instance all executive powers would be delegated to the Executive Officers only.

The Chairman will have certain power to appoint the Executive Officer. Here in this connection I am referring to the Municipal Act, 1958 which was not a hotch potch legislation. Of course, the present Finance Minister was not then in this House so to that extent we were poorer. This bill was passed after long two years of considering all the pros and cons of the bill. The bill was referred to the Select Committee and many discussions were held, public opinions were taken into consideration before passing the bill. There was also the provision for the appointment of the Executive Officer. Sir, Section 37 of the Act provides as follows: "The Chairman Shall, for the transaction of the business connected with this Act, or for the purpose of making any order authorised thereby, exercise all the powers vested by this Act in the Board". The Chairman will also have power to appoint the Executive Officer but he shall not be in a position to give direction or any order to the Board to exercise any power which was directed to be exercised by the Board. The Chairman has also the emergency power which is also ultimately subject to the approval of the Board. For any emergency measure, the Chairman is bound to report to the Board and to have the measures approved subsequently. But the Government first spends money on the pretext of urgent necessity and then come with the Supplementary Budget.

The Chairman of the Municipality is not a technical man. But there may be some difficulty in respect of the Executive Officer. Therefore the Section 53 of Assam Municipal Act, 1956 reads as follows: "A Municipal Board may appoint an Executive Officer with the approval of the State Government. The State Government may appoint any person as such officer in respect of any particular Board. In either case the salary of the officer including allowances, etc., and other charges shall be charged on the Municipal Fund unless the State Government agree to bear the same or any portion thereof.

The State Government shall make rules regarding the appointment, salaries, conditions of service, powers, duties and function of the Executive Officers and other relevant matters connected therewith and also providing that the disciplinary action shall be taken against the Executive Officer except with the previous sanction of the State Government. "Now Sir, so far as Section 53 is concerned, it appears that the State Government is empowered to appoint the Executive Officer in respect of a particular Board. As it was also said that the State Government have the necessary technical knowledge and technical know-how in this matter in so far as the appointment of efficient Officers and their salaries and allowances and are qualifications are concerned. The Government also can frame

rules and conditions under this section itself, but the Government cannot make any rule contrary to the Act. Because, if any rules are made inconsistent with the Act, the Court will declare them to be ultra vires. Sir, the Government proposes to amend the bill in only three lines of one sentence which is as follows : "Provided that the Chairman shall not exercise any power which shall be exercised under the rules by the Executive Officer where such officer is appointed under section 53 of the Act." This Executive Officer, as a matter of fact will be subordinate to the Minister L. S. G. It will be a tyranny of the burtal majority. To speak in the words of Srimati Komal Kumari Barua—

“কাকো দেখি বাকৈ বাঢ়ে

কাকো দেখি দুৱাৰ মাৰে”

What is sauce for the gander may not be sauce for the goose. I find here under cover of just making certain adjustments, under cover of just balancing legal nicities there is attack from behind. I am not objecting to the appointment of the Executive Officer. My only objection is that it is not clearly defined to whom the Executive Officer will be answerable, to whom he will be responsible for his actions. So far as disciplinary action against him is concerned, it is provided already in the existing Act. It has been said "The State Government shall make rules regarding the appointment, salaries, conditions of service, powers, duties and functions of the Executive Officers and other relevant matters connected therewith and also providing that no disciplinary action shall be taken against the Executive Officer except with the previous sanction of the State Government." Though we have been working very hard, though the Minister rushes through this particular Bill, for us it is a question of life and death for democracy because a man of his standing of Mr. F. Ali Ahmed, a man of his legal position, a man of his standing in society when he brings a Bill and we also become surprised to find that the Bill is not one which is becoming of his personality, we shall be failing in our duty if we do not point out the defects of the Bill. In spite of his best wishes the Bill appears to be nothing but a slap on the face of democracy. With these few observations I resume my seat.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Anguri): When the heart is full words are few. Gradually it seems Government is abusing the principles of democracy. An elected body is made under the control of an Executive Officer and gradually this elected body is converted into an advisory body of this Executive Officer. Gradually Government is coming to that position. Now they are proceeding not to the ideals of democracy but to the ideals of Hitlerism. They are doing this in the case of the Shillong Municipality also.

Mr. SPEAKER: Hitlerism and similar expressions are not parliamentary.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: I don't understand why this change should be made and why executive Officer should be invested with all the powers of the Municipal Board.

Secondly, Sir, we should see whether this new arrangement will improve matters. Our experience in this respect of the Shillong Municipality is disappointing. The Executive Officer has not been able to improve matters. Last year, the Government gave us an assurance that since the affairs of the Municipality had been taken over by the Government, the water supply position would improve. But, Sir, I am sorry to say that for days together I am coming here without taking bath in the morning. Only a few drops fall from the tap. But the Government is very keen in realising taxes. I think Government should learn a lesson from this. If the Government decides to take any Municipality in hand—I may say from our experience that things will not improve. This Government professes to be a democratic Government. They say they are amenable of public opinion. If that is so, they should have sent this Bill to different Municipalities and different citizens in the towns for their opinion. Government have not done that. They should, therefore, immediately do this, if they profess to be democratic in ideals and actions. Therefore, Sir, I feel that Government should withdraw this Bill because it is thoroughly bad, fundamentally unacceptable and retrograde

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have with rapt attention listened to the observations made by my hon. Friends. Some of them have described this proposal as a stab on democracy, others have described it as a malafide piece of legislation; some have even waxed eloquent about the democratic principles which we should follow. I was listening to these arguments and was convinced that except the sound and fury there was no substance in the allegations made by the hon. Members. I have no doubt whatsoever that these baseless allegations and insinuations have been made because they do not have any correct information in regard to this matter.

My Friend Mr. Barthakur went to the extent of saying that the Government had not published the rules under the Municipal Act. I am sure as a Member of the Assam Assembly he has been getting copies of the *Assam Gazette*, and his statement only indicates that he does not go through the *Assam Gazette*. If he had cared to do so, he would have found...

***Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati):** What was the date of publication of the last instalment of rules? It took three years to frame the rules.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** What he said was that the rules had not been published.

***Shri NILMONEY BARATHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** What I pointed out was that in the case of Shillong Municipal Board, the Executive Officer was appointed prior to the publication of rules under Section 53.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I am coming to that. Please have patience. I was trying to point out, Sir, that this particular final publication escaped the hon. Member's notice as he did not care to look into the *Gazette*. Because of this misinformation he was saying till now that the rules had not been published.

Now, my Friends have said that Karimganj Municipality is a pet child and that we have treated the Shillong Municipality with discrimination. May I tell the hon. members that the Shillong Municipality can, and should be, as much a pet child as the Karimganj Municipality because the administration of the Shillong Municipality was also run by the Congress Party. My friend may nod his head, but it is a fact. Whether the administration is run by the Congress Party or any other party is immaterial to us. We do what is necessary. My Friends have also levelled a charge against us of partiality towards the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipality. They also gave big lectures about democracy in this connection. But does democracy teach us that we should take action against a particular individual without giving him an opportunity to explain? Do the hon. members know that after the report has been submitted we have framed certain charges and those charges have been forwarded to the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipal Board for his reply?

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** What about the food adulteration case?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister Local Self-Government):** Sir, I listened to the speeches of the Opposition members in silence and did not disturb them in this way. May I expect the same treatment from them?

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, I would request hon. Leader of the Opposition to listen to the Hon'ble Minister first. When he was speaking the hon'ble Minister was listening.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED:** I have found, Sir, that people who have got a weak case try to cover up their weakness by shouting and disturbing others. My hon. Friends must realise that when they spoke all kinds of things with an ulterior motive and that my pocket was full. I do not want to say a single word though I had full justification to do so. Now, what I want to say is this. It is very unfair for my Friend to say that we bring about discrimination and that we treat one Municipality differently from other Municipality. I can tell them this much that so far as these matters are concerned, I take an absolutely detached view and if I give the judgment that a particular Municipality has committed certain irregularities, has indulged in some activities which cannot be supported, I do not care who is the Chairman of that Municipality, and if any action has to be taken, that action will be taken. It is, therefore, unfortunate that my Friends without knowing these facts went to the extent of levelling such charges against me that I was discriminating between one Municipality and other. They further said that this legislation has malafide because I want to cover up something illegal activity which has been committed by the Government. I do not know what illegal activity has been committed by the Government in appointing an executive officer for the Shillong Municipality. Is there no provision in a Municipal Act under which the Government can request the Municipality to appoint an executive officer and if the Municipality refuses, Government can take action? If there is a provision and if under that provision an executive officer for Shillong Municipality has been appointed, what irregularity

has been committed? So far as the appointment is concerned, no illegality was committed. The idea was not that he should be appointed for the purpose of usurping the entire power and authority of the Chairman but that he should be given power in order to assist the Chairman for the purpose of administration. That was perhaps one of the reasons why this legislation was introduced. Our legislator like Shri Bhattacharyya thought that when conditions are favourable and when it becomes necessary that an executive officer will be appointed, some rules will be framed by the Chairman and delegated to the officer. In order to help the Shillong Municipality, for the purpose of placing at their disposal, an experienced officer had to be appointed by transfer from a permanent service to the great inconvenience of other Department. We expect that after this officer is appointed, Government will look to the policy matters and control. I shall have the control but the day to day administration should be done by the executive officer. I am sure my Friend do not know about these things otherwise they would not have singled out the case of Shillong Municipality. In this town there are many holdings which have not been assessed for four or five years and if a tax is not realised he did not see us it becomes time-barred and you cannot recover it. There were cases when buildings were constructed but were not assessed part from the fact that number of cases were given remissions and arrears accumulated. This being the state of affairs, I sent for the Vice-Chairman and I told him that it was very difficult for him to look after this and therefore an executive officer has been appointed for this purpose. The Municipality said that there are no rules under which these powers can be transferred to the executive officers. Then Government framed certain charges as have been done in the case of Karimganj Municipality against the Chairman. We gave him an opportunity to explain and I gave a personal hearing and the person responsible could not reply to the serious charges which were framed. The opinion of the hon. Members was that money which was advanced to the Municipality for the purpose of improvement of water supply was not spent, it was not surrendered for two or three years and we find that the Municipality was run with no funds of its own but by borrowing from rich members. In this state of affairs, can Government tolerate and not take action? If we had failed to take action, hon. Members will surely criticise us because the Municipality, they will say, is manned by the Congress people.

The same procedure is followed in the case of Karimganj Municipality. We obtained a report from the auditor and after we are satisfied that there is some hanky panky we thought it is necessary to get an officer appointed. Our hon. Friends say that this system is very undemocratic and that I have become an autocrat, that I am not giving an opportunity to the Chairman concerned to explain. I do not know why this charges have been made. Therefore, I want to tell the hon. Members that this piece of legislation is neither undemocratic nor is meant to take away any authority of the Municipality concerned. I want to make it clear here that so far as the other Municipalities are concerned, we do not want to interfere with their activities. I think it will not be proper to name the particular Municipality. But here I can take pride on the work done by the Tezpur Municipality. So when the work is so well done by the Tezpur Municipality, can we think of appointing an executive officer when in the absence of that officer, the Municipality is doing these things. But there are Municipalities in the State, I do not like to name them, which could not manage and several lakhs of rupees have been wasted and where it is impossible for the

Chairman to supervise collection in the entire town. As we find in the Shillong Municipality the Executive Officer has been appointed to serve the purpose for which he has been appointed. Therefore, we want the power to frame rules in order to give powers on the day to day administration to the Executive Officer and not powers of giving direction. Unless they make a proviso to the effect that power is given to the Executive Officer they will not be exercised by the Chairman and they will again be in trouble and difficulty in getting all those works done. Therefore, this legislation has been brought. That is the reason. When the rules are framed, I am prepared to place these rules before this House if the Hon. Members want that.

Mr. SPEAKER : In any case, you will have to place the rules before House.

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister Local Self-Government) :** Not only place these rules before the House but also not to finalise them till they have been discussed and approved by the House. I do want to give any authority to the Executive Officer which will take away the democratic nature of the Municipalities. I want to give the Executive Officer such powers and functions as are concerned with the day to day administration, collection of taxes, seeing that the assessment is properly done, etc. All those powers will be given and I hope that such functions and powers cannot be interpreted as a meaning that they are taking away the democratic nature of the situation. For instance, take the case of the Government. We are running the Government but in certain matters we have given powers to the Secretaries and on that ground, can it be said that our Government is not a democratic Government? Or on that ground can it be said that the Chief Secretary who has been given the powers to function will not listen to the directions of the Government? On the other hand, he has been given the powers to function on certain orders. That is why we want that we should have the powers to frame rules under which such powers as will not take away the democratic nature of the Municipalities will be given to these Executive Officers so that these kind of things which are happening all over the State and particularly in big Municipalities may be avoided. It becomes very difficult for the Government when the Municipalities come and approach them for loans and grants and when Government find that 11 or 10 lakhs of rupees are pending as arrears and have not been realised, whether these are arrears from the Government or from the individuals. The Hon. Members will be interested to know that I have passed an order that even if Government is a defaulter I shall not accept any explanation. Let the discharge orders be issued against Government if they do not pay the taxes within the time. Then the Department responsible will have to explain to the Government why it has not paid the taxes and why a discharge warrant is issued against them. I make no exception in the case of defaulters whether it is Government or individual and the Municipalities will show no mercy to the defaulters. Let it be the Ministers, or officers or Government institutions no mercy will be shown. If within the time these taxes are not paid, I say that the Municipalities should issue discharge orders to realise the amount immediately as is realised from individual defaulters. But there can be no excuse for the Municipalities to keep so much amount as 10 to 11 lakh of rupees in the Municipalities. For this

reason, I want that we must have the powers to frame rules under which when the Executive Officers are appointed by the Government, they will be able to discharge certain functions and this should not be misunderstood or misconstrued that we are there in order to assume more power or in order to take away all these activities in our hand. Actually, I will be the last person to assume these powers and take away the authority of the Municipalities. That would simply be a kind of botheration for us and there are also a number of other difficulties. I would wish every Municipalities to run its administration in its own way and we would not like to interfere. What do we gain by interfering in their administration. It is on the other hand a liability and a source of anxiety to us. Take for instance the recent strike by the Harijans of the Shillong Municipality. That was a source of anxiety to us but I can tell you this much that we have been able to solve this problem more satisfactorily than what the Municipality could do. This is the kind of strike by Harijans in Shillong and in course of 4 months, there were altogether 3 strikes and even when every time something was done, the Harijans will make further demand and as a result they will go on a strike and so on. Of course, this time, I am glad to say, that the Harijans have said that their interest lay in the Shillong Municipal Administration and about 60 per cent of them did not resort in a strike and many of those who went on strike have gone to work. Today also about 25 to 30 Harijans came to me requesting that they may be excused and that they are not doing anything and that I should allow them to go back. Unfortunately, I have not got the figures with me, otherwise I would have shown to the members what collection was made by the Executive Officer of the Shillong Municipality and that it is not for the purpose of covering any illegality that this legislation has been placed before the House because in so far as the present affair of the Shillong Municipality is concerned; we have already superseded it. It is not necessary for us to give powers to the Executive Officer to do things at his own. Government who appoints him have given him the power legally to execute and carry out the functions of the Municipality. I can also tell the Hon. Members that in the first place, we shall not appoint the Executive Officers ourselves. We shall request the Municipality concerned to appoint an Executive Officer and delegate certain day to day administrative power to the officer and if the Municipality do not listen and when we find that in that particular Municipality things are not working well, then only shall we appoint the officer and give the powers under this authority. I personally feel that this is a better way than the way of superseding of Municipalities. I do not want that all Municipalities should be superceded by Government. I hope that after I have explained this position, which my Friend, Shri Goswami has said on this Bill that it is a piece of mala-fide legislation will be no more in his mind and I think there will be no doubt in his mind that it has been made not for any mala-fide purpose and I hope after the explanation and assurance given, my Friends, Mr. Nilmoney Borthakur and Mr. Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya will also withdraw their opposition to the piece of legislation which is neither undemocratic nor intended to stab the democratic institution like the Municipalities. We all would like them to prosper. You may find out from the Chairman that as far as possible we have been helping them by giving grants and loans and we want them to develop and work properly. By appointing the Executive Officers we do not give them the powers but to help them so that their administration may be carried out efficiently. I hope after this explanation, the opposition may be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

(The House divided with the hon. Member rising in their seats).

Result of the Division—AYES 49.

—NOES 10.

The question was adopted. There was no amendment.

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI (Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government):** Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR (Dibrugarh):** Mr. Speaker Sir, if this Bill is passed into the law, it will rob most of the executive powers from the Municipal Boards. One point to be borne in mind before we finally pass this Bill into law is that the Heads Municipal Boards all over the world enjoy certain special privileges. In London the Lord Mayor of London is next to the Prime Minister of Great Britain. Similarly in Delhi the Mayor of Delhi enjoys a position and privilege which is second only to the Prime Minister. And the same principle applies in our Municipal Boards also. But here by this amendment that power and privilege of our Chairman of Municipal Boards is sought to be taken away. That means taking away the democratic powers of the Municipal Boards. We have heard the Minister said that he doubts about the present position of most Municipal Boards. I fully agree with him. Most Municipal Boards have erred. In Shillong for the last ten years assessment has not been made. But that does not mean that we should take away the democratic right of the Board. If a particular Municipal Board has erred, that Board can be removed and a new Board set up.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I suggest to the hon. Member that he should not repeat what he said in the consideration stage of the Bill but his arguments should be new ones.

***Shri NILMONEY BORTHAKUR:** Yes, I agree and I am trying to give now points in support of my contention.

Now Sir, the Minister has said that by introducing this measure it is not the intention to take away the powers of the Municipal Boards, but to help them. I fully appreciate his sentiment. But at the same time I must say that this measure definitely restricts the power of the Chairman of the Municipal Board. If the Executive Officer is made responsible to the Board, if he is to execute and carry out the decisions of the Board we have no objection. But here that is not the intention. The intention is to give powers to the Executive Officer in the exercise of which he can execute

certain matters without reference to the Board. That is in contradiction to the Board's existence. If the Executive Officer's power is sought to be given to help the Board in all matters of policy, we have no objection. But as I have said earlier, there is provision by which the Executive Officer's powers will be always in conflict with that of the Chairman of the Board. I do not understand why this Executive Officer is sought to be imposed over the Chairman. That being so, I cannot believe that any self-respecting person of position when this Bill is passed into law would be willing to act as Chairman of any Municipal Board and discharge his functions as Chairman with all these restrictions and with the Executive Officer always behind him snatching away some powers from him. So we oppose passing of this Bill.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** Sir I am not convinced with what Mr. Ahmed said because having again gone through the provision of Section 37 I find either Mr. Ahmed wants a puppet in his hand as Chairman to be pulled from behind or he is not true to what he said. He said we do not want to curtail the powers of Chairman.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Goswami, I am afraid "not true to his words" will not be parliamentary. I suggest that you withdraw that statement.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Alright, Sir, I will say that Mr. Ahmed will not translate into action what he said here. Here we find "The Chairman shall for the transaction of the business connected with this Act, or for the purpose....." the words "connected" should be emphasised "or for the purpose of making any order authorised thereby, exercise all the powers vested by this Act in the Board". Now, the Municipal Act has been passed which has given some definite powers to the Municipal Boards and the Municipal Boards after considering certain matters give the decision to the Chairman to act as the Board desires. Now, Sir, what Mr. Ahmed wants to say is that so far the Chairman is concerned he wants that the Chairman would not exercise any power which shall be exercised through the rules by the Executive Officer if he is appointed under section 53 of the Act, which means that under section 53 of the Act the Chief Executive Officer or the Executive Officer may exercise certain powers and to that extent the Municipal Board under the Chairman can also exercise these powers. Because the powers that the Chairman exercises is derived from the Municipal Board, to that extent the Chairman is not permitted to exercise those powers automatically. It follows that the Municipal Board will not be able to exercise those powers. And therefore, what Government wants through the rules? It wants to nullify the provisions of the Act again.

Now Sir, coming to the second argument.....

Mr. SPEAKER: It does not mean in any case that the Executive Officer will exercise all the powers of the Board. There is a proviso to that effect.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) :** Yes Sir, as I said, I am coming to the second argument. Mr. Ahmed has said that he is ready to place those rules before this House and therefore when this amount of confusion is there—whether the powers of the Board should be taken away by the Government or the Chairman acting on behalf of the Board should have the real power. Sir, so long as it is not provided we are not going to pass this Bill. Let those draft rules be placed before the House; we shall examine them and if we find the draft rules.....

Mr. SPEAKER : We have a Subordinate Legislation Committee to go through the rules, to see whether it is in conformity with the parent act. If not it will be brought to the notice in a report by the Chairman of the Committee of which Shri Bhattacharyya is the Chairman.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Sir, so far as this is concerned, my submission is that this is a creature of this Act passed by this House. The House is a bigger body and if it feels that the rules should be modified, it can do so. I am not suggesting that the final rules should be submitted to the Committee. All that I want is that the draft rules should be placed before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER : Those can be placed under the Act, before it is notified as rules. They have to be brought before the Subordinate Legislation Committee. They will go into the question and submit the report if the House desires to discuss them.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI :** Sir, so far as I know the Subordinate Legislation Committee can scrutinise not only the draft rules, but also even the rules which are finalised.

Mr. SPEAKER : In fact, invariably that is the practice in Lok Sabha. Whenever the draft rules are framed in accordance with any Act, they are placed before the Subordinate Legislation Committee for vetting them. That is the practice we went to follow.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : We cannot appreciate this Legislation unless we know the draft rules. Sir, Secondly, when the discretion has been exercised so far as Karimganj Municipality is concerned, I can only refer to one case *viz*: there was a case in respect of adulteration of food-stuff. Instead of taking any action, those cases were compromised by taking some money for certain public instruction which was most illegal. That was referred to the Government and the Government simply issued a communique saying this way bad and that in future these things should not be done.

Sir, I have full faith in the integrity and honesty and wisdom of Mr. Ahmed and the same time we also feel that after all we are all human beings, with all our weaknesses. These weaknesses also prevent us from doing right things. Therefore we have found in the case of Shillong Municipality, for not submitting the budget, Government has taken one attitude

while in the case of Karimganj Municipality which have not prepared the budget in time, Government has not done any such thing. There are other Municipalities where these thing are being done. My submission is that so far as these things are concerned, by giving more power to the Executive Officer, Government is going to form a dyarchy. There will be two rules—one Chairman and the other is the Executive Officer and this will lead to more complications and overlapping of powers. This will undermine the very democratic institution which we want to build up. Therefore I oppose this Bill, Sir.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I gave respectful attention to what the Minister said. I would like to have further clarification on certain points. Sir, so far as the Shillong Municipality is concerned, this Bill is not meant for rectifying any wrong there. I think, the argument is plausible. He has said that at first an Executive Officer was sought to be appointed and when it was refused, the Shillong Municipal Board was superseded. Government appointed an Officer. So far as this Bill is concerned, there is no necessity of showing any hurry—there is no such emergent situation. Now with regard to the Karimganj Municipal Board, if there is any question, that will be a question of supersession, which are there in the existing Act which has kept this provision. The point on which I have not got the clarification is that the Government presupposes that this rule will be in conflict with Section 37. Why and how? It may be that this rule as the Government have already framed, is not in conflict, but in conformity. If there is any conflict, the Section of the Act should be given precedence and not the Rules. So let us know the rules. If it is found that it is a better provision than Section 37 then the House will not be obstinate to agree with that. Secondly, it has been said that it will be necessary to delegate certain powers to the Executive Officer. Who will delegate? Whether the Board or the Government? In the last sentence of the Statement of objects and reasons, it is said that in the first instance the powers will not be delegated to the Executive Officer. The Chairman also have have powers etc. So the Chairman is in the 'also'—rank a secondary position. Why so? If the Executive Officer is really meant to help the Board, as has been said by Mr. Ahmed, then Executive Officer should be in the Secondary position and not the Chairman. If there should be anybody of the 'also' rank, it should be the Executive Officer and not the Chairman. These points have not been clarified, and I hope the Minister will clarify it if he really wants us to understand the Bill, because it has really become very difficult for us to understand it.

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Barchalla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reasons that were advanced by the Minister are quite enough for clarification of any doubt, so far as the interpretation of the law is concerned. They forgot to attack Section 53 in the original Act. If they have nothing against this Section, and apparently they do not have anything as they have stated nothing against it, how can they now attack this provision that "Provided that the Chairman shall not exercise any power which shall be exercised under the rules by the Executive Officer where such officer is appointed under Section 53 of the Act." When they have no objection to the appointment of the Executive Officer and they have also allowed the State to make rules to that effect so far as the duties and functions etc. are concerned and when it has been specifically provided that the

Chairman will not do all things, then I do not understand how the hon. Members can have any objection to this provision. The hon. Members stated that had this proviso been added to the Bill they would have given their support to the passing of the Bill. But the proviso is only a clarifying proviso that the Executive Officer should not exercise such and such powers. Had this not been made there would have been some conflict in interpretation and application of those powers. Now my Friend says that first you eliminate this proviso and then we will pass the Bill. How can they do that. In that case the whole Bill have to be withdrawn. It is simply a clarification about the duties and functions of the Executive Officer. It is in no way a restriction on his powers. The Chairman will exercise his powers as given under the Act and the Executive Officer will also exercise his specific duties.

Mr. SPEAKER : Hon. Member need not dwell upon the same point.

Shri MOHIKANTA DAS (Barchalla) : It therefore appears to me that there is absolutely no inconsistency. The Executive Officer's functions will not be done by the Chairman and that is the purpose of this proviso, and where is the harm ? Therefore, Sir, I feel there is no case to harbour any feeling as if a catastrophe has overtaken the country, an earthquake has convulsed the universe, or that the democracy is going to be torpedoed and is in danger. If this matter is placed before an impartial tribunal, I am quite sure, Sir, the verdict will be definitely in favour of Government measure. The provision is a very simple and innocent one entirely in consonance with the logical sequence of the Act. According to my humble knowledge of law Sir, there is not a bit of incongruity or inconsistency or curtailment of powers of the Chairman. I do not sense any danger to democracy by this measure or to our elected bodies, *i. e.*, the municipalities.

Therefore Sir, I request my friend to withdraw their opposition to this Bill. With these few words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self-Government) : After the fervant appeal pregnant with logic and reasoning so forcibly made by my Friend Shri Mohikanta Das, I do not think I need say much in reply to the criticism made by my Friends regarding this piece of legislation. Shri Das has given a fitting reply to their points and I only hope that after this they will not see the necessity of opposing this measure. So far as the points opposed by both Shri Goswami and Shri Bhattacharyya, I would just like to place the matter in this way. That this Bill is not intended to take away the power of the Board, that the powers of the Board have to be exercised through the Chairman; that there is some executive powers; that the taxation measure of the Board will have to be implimented by the Chairman. Under the provision of the Act I suggest, that function will have to be exercised by the Chairman.

Now, if some of these activities are transferrud to the Executive Officer, it shall not mean that the Executive Officer takes away all the power of the Chairman. Only certain powers which are now exercised by the Chairman shall be delegated to the Executive Officer and I therefore think that it is not illegal to make this particular provision in the Act. The hon. Member referred to the question of collecting taxes. At present this power is exercised by the Chairman, but if this power is exercised through the

Executive officer it can not be said that we have done some irregularity. As regards the power to appoint this Executive Officer and also the definition of powers that shall be exercised by the Executive Officer, these have been provided in the Act. In order to avoid deadlock, certain powers which are now exercised by the Chairman shall be exercised by the Executive Officer at the instance of the Board. Some other functions of the Municipal administration will be performed both by the Chairman and the Executive Officer.

Now as regards the appointment of the executive Officer, the Act provides that the Municipal Boards may appoint an Executive Officer with the approval of the Government. The State Government may also ask any particular Municipal Board to appoint an Executive Officer.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA (Gauhati) : Section 53 relates to the appointment of the Executive Officer. When such officer will be appointed will he be a subordinate to the Board ?

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local Self Government)** Yes. He will be subordinate to the Board. Although there are two provisions for the appointment of the Executive Officer, i. e., the Executive Officer may be appointed by the Municipal Board and the State Government may also direct a Municipal Board to appoint such officer. In either case he will be subordinate to the Board. To regulate the powers, day to day duties and functions of the Executive Officer some rules shall be framed by the State Government. In this connection I may cite the instance of the Tezpur Municipality. The Chairman of the Tezpur Municipality sought our advice in regard to the appointment of the Executive Officer and the Board had accepted our advice. The Executive Officer will exercise such powers which are considered necessary for the efficient day to day administration of the Municipal Board. I hope my hon. Friends will not question again and realise the reason of delegating this power to the Executive Officer.

So far as the question of Karimganj Municipality is concerned, I would like to express my feelings that I was seriously thinking of taking some action against this Chairman and accordingly I consulted the Advocate General whom I hold in high esteem. I also believe that this House is also aware about his impartiality in law. We were alive to the alleged misappropriation of the Municipality fund by the Chairman but on an enquiry by the Subdivisional Officer, Karimganj no case of *malafide* could be proved. That the fund of the Municipal Board was utilised by the Chairman for his personal gain could not be lawfully substantiated and as such the Advocate General advised us to drop the matter.

That matter was dropped and this circular was issued. In hope; in future my Friends will not refer to this particular instance and cite it as an instance of discrimination.

I hope, Sir, after the assurance I have given that I shall only utilise it in order to bring about efficient administration in the Municipalities, this objection will be withdrawn and the Bill will be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be passed.

THE HOUSE DIVIDED

Ayes 41

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| 1. Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. | 2. Shri Rup Nath Brahma. |
| 3. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi. | 4. Shri Hareswar Das. |
| 5. M. Moinul Haque Choudhury. | 6. Shri Mahendra Nath Hazarika. |
| 7. Shri Biswadev Sarma. | 8. Shri Radhika Ram Das. |
| 9. Shri Larsingh Khyriem. | 10. Shri Girindra Nath Gogoi. |
| 11. Shri A. Thanglura. | 12. Shri Sai Sai Terang. |
| 13. Shri Bishnu Lal Upadhyaya. | 14. Shri Dandeswar Hazarika. |
| 15. Shri Devendra Nath Hazarika. | 16. Shri Dhirsingh Deuri. |
| 17. Shri Durgeswar Saikia. | 18. Shri Dwijesh Chandra Deb Sarma |
| 19. Dr. Ghanashyam Das. | 20. Shri Gaurisankar Roy. |
| 21. Shri Harinarayan Baruah. | 22. Shri Indreswar Khaund. |
| 23. Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda. | 24. Shri Kamala Prasad Agarwala. |
| 25. Shri Khogendra Nath Nath. | 26. Shrimati Lily Sen Gupta. |
| 27. Shri Mahendra Mohan Choudhury. | 28. Shri Mohananda Bora. |
| 29. Shri Mohikanta Das. | 30. Shri Molia Tati. |
| 31. Shri Narendra Nath Sarma. | 32. Shrimati Padma Kumari Gohain. |
| 33. Shri Radha Charan Choudhury. | 34. Shri Radha Kishan Khemka. |
| 35. Shri Rajendra Nath Barua. | 36. Shri Ram Nath Das. |
| 37. Shri Ram Nath Sarma. | 38. Dr. Ram Prasad Chaubey. |
| 39. Shri Sarat Chandra Goswami. | 40. Shri Sarbeswar Bordoloi. |
| 41. Shri Tankeswar Chetia. | |

Noes—7

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|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Bishwanath Upadhyaya. | 2. Shri Gaurisankar Bhattacharyya. |
| 3. Shri Gopesh Namasudra. | 4. Shri Hareswar Goswami. |
| 5. Shri Hiralal Patwary. | 6. Shri Khogendra Nath Barbaruah. |
| 7. Kumar Prakritish Chandra Barua. | |
- (The question was adopted)

THE ASSAM TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING BILL, 1959

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand the Opposition Members will not oppose the passing of the Assam Town and Country Planning Bill, 1959. Mr. Tripathy may move his motion.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Planning and Development): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to the Opposition that they have been kind enough to agree not to give bulk opposition as they did earlier.

In presenting the Report of the Select Committee on the Assam Town and Country Planning Bill, 1959, I am happy to say that the Select Committee's Report has been unanimous. The Select Committee has made far-reaching changes. For instance, the Board which was originally designed has been changed to one of advisory character. Chapter III, dealing with the functions and powers of the Board, has been deleted.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon'ble Minister need not go into these. The report of Select Committee has been circulated to the hon. Members.

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: All right, Sir, I move that the Assam Town and Country Planning Bill, 1959 as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Town and Country Planning Bill, 1959, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

(The motion was then put by the Chair before the House in the form of a question and was adopted.)

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI: I move that the Assam Town and Country Planning Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the Assam Town and Country Planning Bill, 1959, be passed.

(After a pause)

The question is that the Assam Town and Country Planning Bill, 1959 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

Prorogation

Mr. SPEAKER: I have received a message from the Governor which is as follows--

"ORDER

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause 2 (a) of Article 174 of the Constitution of India, as amended upto date, I, Saiyid Fazl Ali, hereby prorogue the Assam Legislative Assembly at the conclusion of its sitting on the 8th April 1959.

FAZL ALI,
Governor of Assam.

The Assembly was then prorogated.

Shillong :

R. N. BARUA,
Secretary, Assam Legislative
Assembly.

The 4th February, 1961